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Phalguna 4, 1881 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Tenth Session
(Second Lok Sabha)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
New Delhi

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, February 23, 1960/Phalguna 4, 1881 (Saka).

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Hydrographic Surveys

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*301. **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of trained officers to carry out hydrographic surveys, investigations and conservancy measures;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to meet this shortage; and

(c) what percentage of vacancies has been filled up till now?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a), (b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) The answer is in the affirmative so far as hydrographic surveys and investigations are concerned. The personnel required for this purpose are found from the Executive Branch of the Indian Navy. There is a shortage of officers in the Executive Branch which is reflected in the Hydrographic Branch of the Navy.

As regards conservancy measures, the position is that responsibility for any measures relating to a Central subject devolves on the Central Government while States are responsible for measures relating to a State subject. Government are not aware of any shortage of officers for carrying out these measures.

(b) A Hydrographic Training Unit was set up at Bombay in 1959 for imparting training in survey duties. Six officers will commence their training in the unit during 1960. There is also a proposal to set up a Hydrographic Training School to impart training to a large number of officers.

(c) There are 26 officers in the Hydrographic Branch at present against an estimated requirement of 49 officers by 1961. The existing shortage is, therefore, 47 per cent. of the requirement.

Shri Subodh Hansda: From the statement I find that there is a shortage of personnel for hydrographic surveys and investigations. If that is so, why are all the port organisations not requested to give training to civil engineers who have experience of the same?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is a special type of work which requires intensive training of a special type. I do not know whether it can be given to any ordinary civil engineer. The fact of the matter is that the Executive Branch of the Navy is the main feeding source for the recruitment of hydrographic surveyors. There is a shortage in the Executive Branch of the Navy and that shortage is reflected in the number of hydrographic surveyors.

Shri Subodh Hansda: From the statement I find that there is a pro-

posal to set up a Hydrographic Training School. May I know as to where the school will be located?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The first batch will go in shortly.

Mr. Speaker: He wants to know as to where it will be located.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I cannot exactly say about the location. I am sorry.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that the National Harbour Board appointed a special committee for hydrographic survey? May I know whether they have also recommended that the training centres should be set up at once?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There is a permanent committee set up on the recommendations of the National Harbour Board. They are reviewing the position from time to time. They also have invited our attention to this matter.

Shri Goray: Just now the hon. Minister has said that the first batch of students will be taken up for training shortly. How is it then that he does not know as to where the school will be located?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am sorry it is off my memory just now. I would not like to give an answer unless I am fully sure about it.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: May I know as to where the largest number of hydrographic surveyors and conservancy officers are emloyed and if it is a fact that many trained personnel are leaving because they are given inferior scales to that of personnel recruited from the Navy?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Conservancy is different and is more or less the responsibility of the State Governments. So far as hydrographic surveyors are concerned, I have just now said that we get them from the Navy. That is done by the Navy. I have no such reports that hydrographic surveyors are leaving their jobs or that there is any apathy in them.

Shri Tangamani: The statement says that there are 26 hydrographic survey officers at present. How many of them are at present employed in the Calcutta Port and how many were employed during the last two years? May I also know whether the number is more or less and, if it is less, the reason for the same?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The survey work itself has to be divided into three parts. Firstly, the survey which is internal survey in the major ports is the responsibility of the Ports themselves. Then, the survey of the minor ports is the responsibility of the State Governments through their port organisations. Then the rest of the survey is general survey. Therefore even under the scheme that has been accepted, for their internal survey the major ports have got to provide for it.

Shri Tangamani: How many are employed in Calcutta now and how many were employed two years ago?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have not got the break-up for that separately.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Chaudhuri.

Shri Tangamani: Just one point, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: On every question there are hundred points. What am I to do? Shri Chaudhuri.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: The hon. Minister has made a statement that conservancy is the responsibility of the State Government. But is it not a fact that so far as the conservancy of Lower Hooghly below Konnagar is concerned, that is the responsibility of the Port Commissioners and as such is under the Central Government?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Major ports are Port Commissioners' or Port Trusts' responsibility.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: It is the responsibility of the Central Government.

Shri Tangamani: Is it not true that hydrographic surveyors in Calcutta Port have left during the last two years because the good conditions of service were not available to them?

Mr. Speaker: Almost the same question was asked by Shri Chaudhuri. The hon. Minister said that he is not aware . .

Shri Tangamani: That has not been replied.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has answered that. All of us are hearing what he says. He speaks in English. The hon. Minister said that he does not appoint these people, that they are drawn from the Navy, that they go back and that we must only ask the Navy as to why they leave and so on.

Shri Tangamani: The question arises whether all those surveyors have been recruited from the Navy or whether there are now hydrographic surveyors who have not been recruited from the Navy?

Shri Raj Bahadur: My information, as I have collected it, goes to show that the Executive Branch of the Navy is the main feeding source for the recruitment of hydrographic surveyors I will be grateful to know as to what exactly the hon. Member wants and would like to answer that.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Miinster must have noticed that more than one hon. Member has asked the question whether the surveyors have not left. The hon. Minister will kindly make enquiries.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I will make enquiries. But so far as I know I have received no such reports, namely, that they are leaving.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the personnel who will be trained in the proposed school will be recruited directly or through the Navy?

Shri Raj Bahadur: No such specific rules have so far been framed, but I think we shall take them mostly from the Navy.

Employment for Trained Pilots

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*302. { **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 59 trained pilots who recently completed their course at the Civil Aviation Training Centre at Bamrauli (Allahabad) and obtained their 'B' Class licences, are unemployed;

(b) whether it is also a fact that 20 pilots are undergoing training at present at this Centre;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Union Government have recently held competitive examinations and interviews to select another 30 candidates for training at the XVth Flying Training Course which commenced in January, 1960; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken to provide employment to those 59 pilots who have been sitting idle and those 20 who will shortly be completing their course?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) About 40 such pilots were unemployed on 31-12-1959.

(b) Their number was 32 on 31st December, 1959.

(c) Yes, but the course is expected to commence only in July, 1960 and the candidates will complete their training after two years.

(d) The pilots have to seek employment with the Air Transport Industry or the Flying Clubs. Information regarding these unemployed pilots is also being communicated to the Ministry of Defence in case they are able to utilize their services.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: May I know whether it is a fact that about Rs. 75,000|- are spent for training each of these pilots? If they are left unemployed, how do the Government propose to employ them?

Shri Mohiuddin: Yes, Sir. The average expenditure at the Central Aviation Training Centre at Allahabad comes to about Rs. 52,000|-. The intake of the trainees is based generally on the estimated requirements of the pilots in the next two or three years. As far as possible the number is reduced if the employment potential is less.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: Just now the hon. Minister has said that 40 out of the first batch are still unemployed, 20 are under training and they are proposing to train another 30. How does this figure square up with the reply that he has just now given?

Shri Mohiuddin: The estimate has been made on the basis that in about 1962 the requirement of the new pilots will be just over 100. The new recruitment is based on that estimate.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: I understand, at present there is no proper co-ordination between the Civil Aviation Department and the IAF in employing 'D' licence pilots. How do they propose to remedy this defect?

Shri Mohiuddin: I have just now stated that the names of our unemployed pilots have been communicated to them. I expect that there will be more co-ordination.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon Minister has stated that the names have been forwarded to the Miinstry of Defence and also to the Flying Clubs. I want to know as to how many of these trained pilots have been taken either by the Defence Ministry or by the Flying Clubs during 1959. Was anybody taken?

Shri Mohiuddin: I am not aware as to whether anyone was taken in the Defence Ministry, but as far as Flying Clubs are concerned, we are of course asking them to take the pilots that have passed from CATC, unless some other more experienced pilot is available to them.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: My question was specific whether anybody has been taken over by the Defence Ministry?

Mr. Speaker: He is not aware.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: So, what is the fate of these pilots? I want to know that.

Mr. Speaker: He says he is not aware. What more?

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: A few years ago a committee known as the Master Committee was appointed to go into the question of the training of these pilots and the unemployment of pilots. They made several recommendations. After implementing those recommendations, the unemployment situation eased in that sector. How is it suddenly we see that 40 pilots are unemployed?

Shri Mohiuddin: The Master Committee was appointed about four years ago. Since then, another committee was appointed presided over by the Director General of Civil Aviation. Their recommendations have also been accepted. Their main recommendations are with a view to increasing the efficiency of the training and the efficiency of the licencees and other matters. It is not mainly concerned with the employment of the pilots.

Shri Joachim Alva: May I know why these pilots are kept on hanging unemployed? Why not entertain the idea of their being kept as second or third in command on a plane on a sustenance allowance, so that their training may not go rusty?

Shri Mohiuddin: The Indian Airlines Corporation take in new recruits as and when they require them. It is not possible for me to say whether they should be taken as second or third in command.

Report on the Nizamuddin Sewer Trench Mishap

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*303. **Pandit D. N. Tiwari:**
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri Assar:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri S. A. Mehdi:
Shri Vajpayee:
Shri Mohan Swarup:
Shri B. C. Mullick:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Enquiry report of the Nizamuddin Sewer Trench Mishap has been submitted; and

(b) if so, the main findings and steps taken thereof?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) A copy of the Report is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 73]. It is under consideration of the Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Committee of the Delhi Municipal Corporation.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: In this report nowhere has responsibility been fixed for the accident except for a hint that the technical staff employed by the contractor was not of requisite qualifications. May I know who was responsible for this accident?

Shri Karmarkar: The report is before the House. The hon. Member is free to draw his own conclusions.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: I want to know whether Government has fixed any responsibility on anybody for this accident or not?

Shri Karmarkar: Firstly, the Delhi Municipal Corporation which is autonomous under an Act passed by this Parliament, has to consider this matter. Unless it is absolutely necessary, we should not like to trespass on what is their jurisdiction.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: May I know whether, after the death of some men, it is not necessary for Government to intervene and fix the responsibility on somebody who may be responsible for this accident?

Shri Karmarkar: It is too premature to think of what Government should propose to do. If the Government have a feeling that the Corporation has not arrived at a correct decision and that it is such an important matter that Government should intervene, then certainly it will intervene. The stage is not yet reached.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, इस रिपोर्ट को पढ़ने से कुछ एसी भावना होती है कि सारे मामले को दबाने की कोशिश की गई है, और कुछ सफेदी-पुताई करने की कोशिश की गई है । अत: मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जैसा कि माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने उस दिन आश्वासन दिया था, क्या माननीय मंत्री जी स्वयं इस चीज का अध्ययन कर के कुछ कड़ी कार्यवाही करेंगे ?

श्री करमरकर : इस रिपोर्ट को पढ़ने के बाद गवर्नमेंट की भावना एसी नहीं होती । जैसा मैं ने अर्ज किया है, दिल्ली म्यूनिसिपल कार्पोरेशन एक आटोनोमस बाड़ी है । जब चाहे तब गवर्नमेंट उस के कारोबार में रूकावट नहीं डाल सकती है । नहीं तो हमारा एक्ट ब-इज्जत हो जाता है । मैं ने अर्ज किया कि जब मौका आयेगा और हमारी समझ में आ जायगा कि कार्पोरेशन ने जो गलती की है, वह इतनी बड़ी है कि गवर्नमेंट की राय में उस में इन्टरवेंशन करना चाहिय, उस वक्त गवर्नमेंट इन्टरवीन करेगी ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In the report it is stated that the supervisory staff employed by the contractor consisted of two Inspectors and six jamadars with overall supervision by their Consulting Engineer (Shri B. S. Puri, retired Chief Engineer, C.P.W.D.), and still it is said they were not technically qualified. This is a matter where the retired Chief Engineer of the CPWD became.....

Mr. Speaker: What is the question?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: My question is this. Has it been brought to the notice of the Government that this retired Chief Engineer of the CPWD has joined this contractor and as such no specifications are followed by the contractor? This is a very serious matter.

Shri Karmarkar: So, what shall I do about that matter (*laughter*) I want your guidance in this matter, Sir.

Shri Tyagi: It is no reply.

Shri Karmarkar: Parliament in its wisdom has passed a statute, the Delhi Municipal Corporation Act. The provisions of the Act are in the Act itself. According to that Act, no doubt Government can intervene in the matters of this autonomous body under extraordinary circumstances. Here is a report about a thing which happened which is within the jurisdiction of the Delhi Municipal Corporation. They appointed a committee. The Committee's report, is, in the normal course, before the Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Committee of the Corporation. After that Committee considers it, the Corporation will consider it. I want your guidance whether we should try to anticipate the decisions of the Corporation and try to intervene now. That is the difficulty of Government. The Member is under no difficulty whatever.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: This is a very serious matter, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Government has got jurisdiction over the activities of any corporation, even if it is a private one. Of course, if there is no specific provision, it can have a provision. So far as an autonomous corporation under the jurisdiction of the Government is concerned, the Government can certainly say: this is what has come to our notice, what have you to say?

Shri Karmarkar: Not only has it come to our notice; the same thing has come to their notice.

Mr. Speaker: That is another matter.

Shri Karmarkar: I would like to have your considered guidance; if you authorise the Government to intervene in a matter which is under the normal jurisdiction of the Corporation when they are giving their proper consideration to it, Government will certainly consider it.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Let there be some demarcation line between the normal functions of the Government and the overall power of the Government to intervene.

Mr. Speaker: This is a thing which occurs constantly. A number of questions is being asked. Corporations are coming into existence with respect to industries, with respect to other matters also. I have been finding it difficult to draw a line of demarcation I asked the hon. Finance and other Ministers to write to me so that we might sit together and find out what the exact jurisdiction is. If the House finds that there must be some more jurisdiction, some more powers vested in the hands of the Minister, then let us know definitely. I will call for a meeting, or I will myself prepare a list of those powers which we can exercise, and wherever those powers are wanting, in consultation with the Ministers let us see how far we can go. These are matters which are coming up not only in regard to this Corporation but many other corporations also. Apparently, some of them are of a very serious nature and the hon. Minister says that under the provisions of the Act he has no jurisdiction. Therefore, there seems to be a conflict. If in the interests of the country and our own interests we have to see that the conflicts are removed, I will certainly do so.

Shri Tyagi: Government have inherent powers to intervene particularly whenever there is a case of misappropriation, misuse or wastage of public money etc.

Mr. Speaker: I shall look into this matter. I know in a number of statutes, especially relating to corporations, there is a general provision that directions can be given by the Minis-

ter or the Government from time to time and also ask for information. Is there no such provision here?

Shri Karmarkar: That is right.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member has said that the Chief Engineer himself, who has to supervise, has joined the contractors and no specifications have been insisted upon. This is a matter on which the hon. Minister can ask the Corporation to explain and give directions, and if they still persist....

Shri Karmarkar: I bow to your opinion, but is this the stage for it when the matter is under their consideration? Would it be proper, even before they come to a decision? Suppose they decide it rightly according to us, even then would it be proper for us to intervene earlier?

Mr. Speaker: I leave it to the Minister.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: My fear is only this. This ex-Chief Engineer of the CPWD has been engaged by the contractor to procure many contracts—this is a very serious matter—at the cost of human lives.

Shrimati Subhadra Joshi: Is it the Home Ministry or the Health Ministry which will decide when to intervene?

Shri Karmarkar: I think that need not arise now. I take the full responsibility.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Considering the fact that it is the Capital and this is a health question, there must be some urgency about it.

Mr. Speaker: I will allow a discussion on this report. Let it be placed on the Table of the House.

Shri Tyagi: Is this not enough communication of the sense of Parliament?

Overpayment to Contractors

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*304. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 289 on the 20th November, 1959 and state:

(a) whether Government have since received the report regarding the overpayment made to contractors engaged in the doubling of Rajkharswan-Barajamda line of South-Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, what are the findings; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Departmental investigations indicate certain overpayments to contractors.

(c) Excess amounts paid to Contractors are being recovered and the matter has been made over to the Special Police Establishment for further investigation.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know the total amount involved in this overpayment made to contractors?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: A Committee of two senior officers was appointed, and they assessed the overpayment to the extent of approximately Rs. 9 lakhs.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know what the findings of the departmental committee are and whether they have fixed liability on any officer?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: As I have just stated, the case has been handed over to the Special Police Establishment, and I would not like to forestall their findings.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: In a statement that was laid on the Table of the House during the last session, it was stated that the overpayment was to

the tune of Rs. 24 lakhs. How is it that the amount has now come down only to Rs. 9 lakhs? May I know the total amount paid to the contractor?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We received information regarding allegations of overpayments having been made to contractors. The Vigilance Cell made sample checks of certain sections. Based on their sample check, they assessed the approximate overpayments to about Rs. 24 lakhs. On that basis, we appointed a committee of two administrative rank officers to carry out all the measurements in detail and to submit report. They went into the whole case very thoroughly, and they stated that the overpayments were to the extent of Rs. 9 lakhs. As to how much amount has been paid to the contractor so far, I would require separate notice for that.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The Special Police Establishment have been carrying on this investigation since May last. May I know whether they have given any indication as to when they will complete their investigation?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: No, not to us.

Shri P. R. Patel: May I know the grounds on which these overpayments were made? Was it done through mistake or intentionally?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: That would be known only after the inquiry by the Special Police Establishment is over.

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): I shall supplement what the Deputy Minister has stated. It mostly involves earthwork. The payment of the bills of the contractors is made on the basis of the classification of earthwork, involving lead and lift. The provisional bills were submitted, and the payments were made.

Some anonymous complaints were received by us that overpayments had been made. Then, I wanted an investigation into the matter. The final bills have not been paid. Our anxiety was to see that the amount that might have been overpaid was recovered, after thorough investigation. Departmental officers looked into the matter and went into the question very thoroughly, and we are hopeful that we shall be in a position to recover the overpayments. As to what other action should be taken, and whether some officers were intentionally involved in this matter or not, that aspect has been referred to the Special Police Establishment and as soon as we receive their reports, appropriate action will be taken.

Shri P. R. Patel: May I know whether measurements were done before making the payments? After all, no payment would be made without having measurements and without checking.

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Provisional payments are made. Of course, bills are submitted on the basis of measurements done. But, when it is a continuing process, provisional bills are submitted by the contractors, and provisional payments are made. Whether this was due to a genuine mistake or it was intentional is the aspect which is under investigation by the Special Police Establishment. And some officers have been already suspended.

Shri Tyagi: May I take it that in the case of a genuine mistake, no action is warranted? Or, is it the policy of Government that whatever be the amount of loss, if it occurred unintentionally, then the officers who were responsible for it will go scot-free?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: No, the gravity will be different, and the punishment will be different in the two cases. If it is intentional, certainly, the punishment will be greater. If it is a *bona fide* mistake, that means some lack of knowledge or neglect of duty, the punishment will be lighter.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: May I know whether the officers against whom investigation is going on are still in service or they have been placed under suspension and if later how much are they paid?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I have already said that some officers have been suspended.

टेलीप्रिंटरों का निर्माण

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*३०८. श्री भक्त दर्शन :
श्री राम कृष्ण गुप्त :
श्री आचर :
श्री आसर :

क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री २० नवम्बर, १९५९ के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ३०८ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत में टेलीप्रिंटर बनाने का कारखाना खोलने के बारे में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ; और

(ख) यह कारखाना कब तक स्थापित हो जायगा ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) उक्त प्रायोजना में दिलचस्पी जाहिर करने वाली पार्टियों से बातचीत पूरी हो चुकी है और परामर्शदाताओं के चुनाव का प्रश्न सरकार के विचाराधीन है ।

(ख) १९६१-६२ में इस कारखाने के स्थापित हो जाने की संभावना है ।

Some Hon. Members: May we have the reply in English also?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) Negotiations with the parties who expressed an interest in the project have been completed and the question of selecting the consultants is under the consideration of the Government.

(b) The factory is likely to be established in 1961-62.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन् मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस फैक्ट्री की स्थापना के सम्बन्ध में किन लोगों से बातचीत तय की गई है और वे किस देश के रहने वाले हैं ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जिन से बातचीत तय की गई है उनका नाम अभी जाहिर नहीं किया जा सकता है । लेकिन तीन पार्टियां हैं जिन से बातचीत चालू की गई थी । उनके नाम हैं, सीमेंस एंड हालस्की, क्रीड एंड कम्पनी और आलिविटी ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन् मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि इस समय हमारे देश में टेलीप्रिंटरों की, दूरमुद्रकों की कितनी आवश्यकता है, अगले वर्षों के अन्दर कितनी आवश्यकता का अनुमान लगाया जा रहा है और इससे कितनी पूर्ति उसकी हो जायगी ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जो समिति इस दिशा में खोज करने के लिये नियुक्त की गई थी उसके अनुसार १,००० टेलीप्रिंटरों की आवश्यकता है, ऐसा अनुमान लगाया गया था ।

Shri Achar: May I know whether this factory will be for manufacturing only teleprinters or it will also manufacture telegraphic equipment?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: The plan now is only for teleprinters.

Shri Assar: In the absence of the factory, may I know whether Government are continuing their efforts to convert the old English teleprinters into Nagari teleprinters?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: No, that is a separate equipment altogether.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know when the first teleprinter manufactured by this factory will be out for use?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I am not able to give any specific date.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the prototype of a teleprint-

er manufactured by a Japanese concern, which was some time ago inspected here and found suitable, and which can easily transmit messages in more than one script will also be examined for being manufactured here?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: No. When we wanted consultants for this matter, only the three firms mentioned earlier by my colleague applied for it, and they were the only people with whom we dealt. There was no Japanese concern who applied for it at all.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: May I know whether all the components..

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. No hon. Member can put a question, unless I have called him. Shri A. M. Tariq.

Shri A. M. Tariq: Keeping in view the largest circulation of Urdu newspapers, may I know whether there is any proposal before Government to manufacture these teleprinters in Urdu?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: No, the present proposal is only for English and Hindi.

Shri N. R. Muniswamy: May I know whether all the components parts would be manufactured in India or only a few of them. and if the latter, how much would have to be imported?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: The object is to manufacture every component for it.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, मेरे प्रश्न का माननीय मंत्री जी ने उत्तर नहीं दिया है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि हमारी कितनी आवश्यकताओं की पूर्ति इस नये कारखाने से हो जायगी ?

श्री राज बहादुर : मैं ने निवेदन किया था कि इसका अनुमान लगाया गया था कि एक हजार टेलीप्रिंटरों की आवश्यकता है, कारखाने में इतने ही टेलीप्रिंटर बनाये जायेंगे और जो हमारी आवश्यकतायें हैं, उनकी पूर्ति हो सकेगी ।

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri A. M. Tariq: May I ask one question?

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed a number of questions over this matter already. Now, next question.

Bombay-Zurich-London Air Service

*307. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the working of Bombay-Zurich-London route air service;

(b) if so, what is the position; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of flights?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) to (c). Routings of the India-U.K. air services of Air India International are decided on the basis of traffic potentialities of the points of halt and these are reviewed by the Air India International Corporation from time to time. Air India International have been operating two of its services between India and U.K. *via* Zurich since 1955 when a halt was introduced at Zurich. There is no proposal to increase the frequency through Zurich.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the frequency of flights is governed by our deal with BOAC or Government can independently take any action?

Shri Mohiuddin: The frequencies are usually governed by the agreements with the countries where we make the halt. The agreement referred to by the hon. Member, that is, with BOAC, is a different question.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if it is the intention of the Government to make the route of this service Bombay-Geneva-London? If so, will it not be more advantageous?

Shri Mohiuddin: According to present arrangements, AII services operate twice weekly *via* Zurich and twice weekly *via* Geneva.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि इस रूट से इस वक्त फायदा हो रहा है या नहीं ?

श्री मुहीउद्दीन : यह कहना तो मुश्किल है कि ज्यूरिच की रूट से फायदा हो रहा है। वहां मुसाफिर मिलते हैं इसलिये वहां जाते हैं। लेकिन आनरेबल मेम्बर वाकिफ हैं कि एयर इंडिया इन्टरनेशनल की सालाना रिपोर्ट में आम तौर पर से फायदा ही होता है।

Shri D. C. Sharma: Is there any desire on the part of the Ministry to put new types of aircraft on this route? If so, what is the nature of those aircraft?

Shri Mohiuddin: It is too early to say yet, because the first Boeing has arrived only day before yesterday. It will take sometime, a month or so, before the final programme is drawn up.

Replacement of Dakotas

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*308. **Pandit D. N. Tiwari:**
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri S. A. Mehdi:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Liladhar Kotoki:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Amjad Ali:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 659 on the 8th December, 1959 regarding replacement of Dakotas by the I. A. C. and state:

(a) the progress made in the negotiation of the barter deal under which the foreign exchange involved in the purchase of 5 Fokker Friendship aircraft, is expected to be met;

(b) whether Government's examination of the proposal of Lock-heed Air-Craft Corporation for manufacture and production in India of a new aeroplane to replace the Dakotas has been completed; and

(c) if so, the nature of decision taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) The negotiation has been completed and the Indian Airlines Corporation have concluded a purchase contract with the Fokker Air-craft Co. on 22-1--1960 for the purchase of five Fokker Friendship Aircraft.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: May I know whether the deal completed involves any foreign exchange? If so, what is the amount?

Shri Mohiuddin: The agreement that has been completed is based on a barter deal. The sellers will purchase sufficient export commodities from India to make up for the price.

Shri P. K. Deo: Sometime back there was an agreement with the Hawker Siddeley Group for the replacement of Dakotas belonging to the IAF. They have made sufficient progress in regard to the manufacture of the aircraft in this country. So I would like to know why a fresh agreement is being signed now to replace the same kind of aircraft belonging to the Indian Airlines Corporation by supply from a different company, that is, Fokker Frienship of Holland.

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): As I explained when a half-hour discussion was held, I put it to the Defence Minister that as our necessities are very urgent, I should be allowed to purchase aircraft abroad before this new plane comes into being. Under

that agreement, we are now purchasing Fokker Friendship aircraft because we want them urgently for our internal air services.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know in what sector these Fokker Friendship aircraft are going to be used?

Shri Mohiuddin: The present proposal is that they will mostly be used on the eastern sector, that is, in the Assam and other lines.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Apart from the five aircrafts purchased, have Government plans to purchase more? Also, what is the price of each Fokker Friendship aircraft?

Shri Mohiuddin: The price of the five Fokker Friendship aircraft project comes to about Rs. 235 lakhs. At the present moment, we have not got under active consideration the question of purchasing any more aircraft.

Shri P. K. Deo: Part (b) of the question has not been replied to. In this connecton, I would like to draw the attention of the Ministry to the fact that sometime back, a reply was given to the effect that the report of the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation in regard to the American type of aircraft was received and was under consideration, and so the negotiation could not be completed. May I know at what stage the negotiations with the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation of America are now?

Shri Mohiuddin: The proposal is under consideration.

Shri Damani: The hon. Minister has said that under the barter deal they will purchase some commodities from our country? May I know the names of the commodities they are going to purchase?

Shri Mohiuddin: I am afraid I cannot give all those details.

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: May I know whether Lockheeds will supply designs only or they will manufacture the aircraft?

Shri Mohiuddin: They will be manufactured, if the proposal is accepted and finally approved, with their collaboration in India.

Pandit D. N. Tiwari: In reply to the earlier question, No. 659, the Minister was pleased to say:

> "The Lockheed Aircraft Corporation have since submitted their proposal for the manufacture and production in India of a new aeroplane to replace Dakotas. This is under examination."

May I know how long it will take to examine the whole question, and when production will commence?

Shri Mohiuddin: I am afraid that is a question which cannot be answered positively.

Shri Joachim Alva: We receive aid from both the sides. We buy military planes from France and Britain and civil aircraft from America. I want to know why we have not entertained the idea of buying planes from the other side, Ilyushin or othe planes. Have we at least made enquiries in this regard? The parts can be easily flow from the neighbouring country, USSR.

Shri Mohiuddin: So far as the last one or two years were concerned, there was no such proposal for purchasing Ilyushin or any other aircraft.

Shri P. C. Borooah: What is the carrying capacity of the Fokker Friendship aircraft, and is it pressurised?

Shri Mohiuddin: The carrying capacity is about 40 passengers.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Fokker Friendship aircraft was put to any tests to see whether it would suit our conditions, the weather and also Indian passengers?

Shri Mohiuddin: It is a very well-tried aircraft. It is in use in many countries. As far as I remember, over 40 aircraft are actually in use. Our General Manager visited the country

where they are in use and he is very much satisfied with them.

Mr. Speaker: The question was whether they would suit our climatic conditions.

Shri Mohiuddin: We have also had trial flights here, and they are suitable for Indian conditions.

Shifting of P. & T. Headquarters from Cuttack to Bhubneswar

*310. **Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the office of the Director of Post and Telegraph, Orissa is proposed to be shifted from Cuttack to Bhubneswar, the New Capital; and

(b) if so, whether the construction of offices and staff quarters at Bhubneswar has been completed?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) and (b) The proposal is under examination. The question of construction of the buildings will be considered in the light of the decision reached.

Shri P. K. Deo: What is the estimate for the buildings to be put up in Bhubneswar?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I have not got the exact figure. We are in correspondence with the Orissa Government over this, because they have promised to meet part of the expenditure.

Shri P. K. Deo: When will these buildings be completed?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: It is difficult to say, but we are trying to have them completed as quickly as possible once an agreement is arrived at with the Orissa Government.

Shri Sanganna: May I know whether there is any proposal to elevate the status of the Director to the status of the Postmaster-General in Orissa?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: No, Sir.

Dr. M. S. Aney: May I know whether the buildings that are to be built there will be the property of the Government of India or of the State Government?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: As it is a central subject, it is the property of the Government of India.

D.V.C. Navigation Canal

*311. **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 281 on the 25th November, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the investigation into the sudden collapse of a bridge across a navigation canal near Palla Road Station, Burdwan has since been completed;

(b) if so, who has been held responsible for it;

(c) the steps proposed to be taken against the person held responsible; and

(d) the main defects found?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No, Sir. The investigation is still in progress.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know why such a small investigation is not completed?

Shri Hathi: I think it should have been completed by now. We asked the D.V.C. for the reasons. One of the reasons seems to be that the Chief Engineer was away on leave for some time.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether proper supervision was done when the construction was going on?

Shri Hathi: Yes; the normal supervision was there: But I do not know the exact position. It is the D.V.C. that is enquiring and we shall know when the report is available.

Price of Foodgrains

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*312. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of foodgrains, specially rice and wheat, have shown any upward trend between December 1959 and January 1960;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) the steps taken to bring down the prices?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. There has been some rise in the prices of foodgrains in December 1959 and January, 1960. The Government are distributing large quantities of wheat and rice through Fair Price Shops in important urban and other deficit areas of the country to avoid any hardship to the people and to discourage rise in prices.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It was said that there was some rise. I want to know to what extent the price rose. How does the price compare with the price of rice and wheat supplied to the fair price shops?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The index number of cereals as a whole had gone up to 110 in the month of October last year and it came down to 99 in the month of December. But it again started rising since the last 1½ months and it has gone up to 103. Still there is a difference between 110 and 103; whereas it was 110 in October it is now 103.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that even after the amalgamation of Orissa and Bengal in the zone, the price of rice both in Orissa and Bengal went up to a considerable extent? If so, what positive steps have been taken to bring down the prices?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): When the zones are formed, the immediate thing that will happen is that, to a certain extent, the prices in the surplus area will rise; but the consequential decline in the other area will be still more. Therefore, that position still holds true.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I know if any survey has been made in order to know what the fair price should be before steps are taken to reduce it in the way Government is doing?

Shri S. K. Patil: It has been made because one of the main things that have been considered is that if the price rises beyond a particular limit, say 10 per cent or so, the fair price shops are there. But that situation has not arisen; the price has not risen.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: My question was, has any survey been made to know the fair price to the producer before efforts are made to bring down the prices by this method.

Shri S. K. Patil: That is a different question altogether; that does not arise out of this.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: It is interlinked.

Shri S. K. Patil: I have already made a statement to the House that Government is considering the question of having some kind of committee by which that question can be tackled. It is a huge question.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: When there was quite a good crop this year and it came into the market sometime in January 1960 and the imports of foodgrains also declined, may I know how Government account for this increase and also whether they are giving any good price to the farmer?

Shri S. K. Patil: From 110 it had fallen to 99 and it had gone up to 103. I did not call it an increase at all.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: How does Government come to the conclusion that the price is high when the Government have no statistics on the basis of any survey?

Shri S. K. Patil: The hon. Member is again asking the same question for which Government is, making special arrangement. Some kind of arrangement has got to be made. Whether the price fixation has got to be settled is under the active consideration of Government.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: The hon. Minister just now said that with the formation of the eastern rice zone he expected that the price of rice would come down in the deficit areas in West Bengal. But is it not a fact that prices have shown an abnormal rise just after harvest in spite of the fact that the zone was formed? What steps do Government consider taking in consultation with the West Bengal Government to bring down the prices?

Shri S. K. Patil: It has nothing to do with zones. There are special things about these matters. There is absolutely no reason why the price in Bengal should rise; if at all, it should come down. There are other things why the prices rise. Unfortunately, sometimes the crops are not good; there are floods and things of that type. But Bengal is being supplied with any amount of foodgrains that they need.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: Is it not a fact that unless and until the prices of the agriculturists' requirements are reduced it will not be possible for the agriculturists to sell their produce at a cheaper rate?

Mr. Speaker: What has it to do with this question? It is a general case; if the prices of other commodities come down the agriculturist can sell at a lower rate.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: I just want to ask this because unless and until the prices of other requirements of the agriculturist are not reduced and if we ask him to sell his produce at a cheaper rate it will not be possible.

Mr. Speaker: That is a matter of argument.

Shri Bimal Ghose: May I know the quantity Bengal has asked for and what the Centre has agreed to?

Shri S. K. Patil: It was at one time thought that the crops in Bengal in other parts were bumper and that they would compensate for the deficit. That was what the Minister of Agriculture there said. But, we understand now that the deficit is to the extent of about 6 lakh tons. If it is so, we shall see to it that they get it.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know if it has been brought to the notice of Government that out of the rice that is being sold in Bengal the profits accruing at one rupee per md. are going to the agriculturist and Rs. 8 or Rs. 10 are being devoured by the middlemen who are being given licences by the Orissa Government?

Shri S. K. Patil: The question of middlemen does not arise because according to the plan that Bengal had made sometime back, quite a large proportion, more than 75 per cent, were having their supplies from the ration shops. Therefore, the middleman does not come in there.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to know whether the increase in foodgrain prices is also due to speculation and forward marketing in foodgrains. If so, may I know whether Government propose to ban speculation on foodgrains?

Shri S. K. Patil: There are a thousand reasons why the prices of foodgrains fluctuate. They will always fluctuate and one of the reasons is forward marketing.

New Delhi Silence Zone

*313. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state whether Government is considering a scheme to make New Delhi a silence zone for motorists as is prevalent at Bombay in order to reduce noise?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): No such proposal is under consideration of the Delhi Administration.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : इस बात को देखते हुए कि बम्बई और बहुत से शहरों में साइलेंस जोन हैं, क्या नई दिल्ली में जनता को रात दिन जो यह मोटरगाड़ियों वगैरह की पों पों और भों भों होती रहती है और उनको सोने में बड़ी दिक्कत होती है तो क्या दिल्ली में भी साइलेंस जोन स्थापित करने की कोई स्कीम लागू होगी ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जी हां कुछ क्षेत्रों में साइलेंस जोन बनाये गये हैं और उन के नाम शायद हमारे माननीय सदस्यों को विदित होंगे । जहां एजुकेशनल इंस्टीट्यूशंस हैं, आफिसेज हैं या अस्पताल हैं वहां पर इनको बनाया गया है । सारी नई दिल्ली में इसको करना फिलहाल सम्भव प्रतीत नहीं होता ।

डा० सुशीला नायर : श्रीमन्, मैं यह जानना चाहती हूं कि साइलेंस जोन के साथ साथ क्या जनता को कुछ ट्रैफिक सेंस की भी शिक्षा देने का प्रबन्ध किया जा रहा है क्योंकि अस्पतालों के पास साइलेंस जोन में कई बार मोटर खड़ी करनी पड़ती है क्योंकि आदमी सामने आ जाता है और हटता नहीं ? वे आशा करते हैं कि हार्न बजेगा ।

श्री राज बहादुर : जो स्थानीय शासन है उसकी चेष्टा तो रहती है और समय समय पर वह इस दिशा में काम भी करता है लेकिन जो परिणाम निकलने चाहियें वह अभी तक निकल नहीं पाये हैं ।

Shri Radha Raman: The hon. Minister just now said that there is no proposal with regard to New Delhi. In view of the broadening of certain roads and the inconvenience that has been pointed out by our hon. friend Shri Raghunath Singh, may I know whether Government will think of enlarging the silence zones which are now in Delhi?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think that position is constantly under review by the local authorities. I am sure they will take proper initiative in this direction as and when the situation demands it.

Distribution of Fertilisers

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*314. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**
Shri Nagi Reddy:
Shri D. V. Rao:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints in respect of distribution of fertiliser from all over the country and particularly from Madras State;

(b) what is the nature of these complaints; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Some complaints have been received by Madras, Bombay, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Pondicherry, Mysore and Andhra Pradesh Governments as well as by the Centre about inadequacy of supply, diversion and adulteration of fertilisers. An instance of adulteration of common salt with ammonium sulphate in Tiruchirapalli district of Madras came to the notice of the Ministry through a Press Cutting.

(c) The mode of distribution of fertilisers within a State is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. The Government of India have recently appointed a Fertiliser Distribution Enquiry Committee to review the systems of distribution of fertilisers in various States and to suggest measures if any,

for improving the system. The report of the Committee is awaited.

As regards the case of reported adulteration in Madras, the Government of Madras have seized the stocks and are taking further action under the Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1957.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What is the nature of the complaints in respect of diversion and adulteration, more particularly in Madras and who are the persons who have been involved in this?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: There are complaints of various nature from many States about the short supply, diversion and adulteration of fertilisers. The Central Government pool the internal requirements and the imported stuff in relation to the total demand and the total availability and they allot them to the States. It is entirely the duty of the State Governments to distribute them and appoint the agencies. Still we keep a watch over them and advise them. In some States it is working well; in Mysore it is done through the co-operatives. We are advising the other States that they should follow such methods. A committee has been appointed to go into the question.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What is the nature of the complaint, more particularly from the Madras State and who are the persons involved in it? Can the Government give us certain facts about it?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): As has been stated, it is the responsibility of the State. The complaints are: mixing ordinary salt with ammonium sulphate, not receiving in time and so on and so forth. The Madras Government is looking into the matter.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Is it a fact that fertilisers were given for cultivation in Assam, reducing the quota of the tea gardens but they were sold back to the tea gardens at a higher rate and were not used for cultivation purposes?

Mr. Speaker: Does it arise out of this question relating to Madras?

Shri S. K. Patil: It is for the whole country. Madras is one of them. Now, it may be true. This House must realise that we are training farmers in the use of fertilisers; it will take a little time. During that process some such things may happen but they should not discourage us.

Shri P. C. Borooah: In view of the fact that the farmers in many of the areas are not yet fertiliser-minded, do Government propose to divert the the allotment of fertilisers to tea industry which is very much suffering due to lack of fertilisers?

Shri S. K. Patil: No, Sir. That would be a wrong thing to do. Because the farmer does not know how to use the fertilizers, it is our duty to train him. That does not mean that the particular area should always be deprived of the use of fertilisers. That would be a wrong policy.

Shri Tyagi: Has any complaint been received by the Government to the effect that fertilisers are mostly being sold in black-market at a price which is sometimes 100 per cent as much as the scheduled price?

Shri S. K. Patil: Quite a few complaints have been received because when fertilisers are properly applied by those who know, they do make quite a lot of difference to the crop. Therefore, such practices do happen. We are trying our best to see through State Governments that co-operative societies and some such institutions take the distribution. But the complaints sometimes are against the co-operative societies also.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Who are the members of the Fertiliser Enquiry Committee and when is it likely to submit its report?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The Agricultural Commissioner of our Ministry is heading the Committee. There is one member from the Ministry of Community Development and one member of the Fertiliser Association

of India. The Committee was appointed only in November and it was asked to report within three or four months.

Shri Thirumala Rao: In view of the fact that Government put so much faith in the co-operatives, are Government having a close watch as to whether these co-operative institutions are not diverting fertilisers allotted to them to private individuals to be sold in the black market?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Just now the hon. Minister has said that even in the case of co-operatives, there are some complaints. All sorts of complaints are brought to our notice: one such is that fertilisers are used for illicit distillation.

Shri P. S. Daulta: Is it a fact that quite a good quantity of these fertilisers go in the black market for preparing illicit liquor?

Mr. Speaker: That is what he said, just now.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: How much quantity is being produced by the Indian fertiliser factories and what is the requirement of the Indian agriculturist and how long will it take to meet the entire requirements?

Shri S. K. Patil: I am talking only of the nitrogenous fertiliser—our production is in the neighbourhood of half a million—five lakhs—tons. Our requirements this year are estimated to be about 23 lakh tons and we are trying to meet, at present, about 80 per cent.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: How long will it take?

Shri S. K. Patil: There is no question of how long. It is immediately, in this year.

Import of Defective Rails

*315. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the imported rails supplied by M/s. Surrendra (Overseas) Private Ltd., Calcutta, were found to be defective;

(b) if so, the amount of loss incurred by the Railway Board on account of this transaction;

(c) whether any amount due to the above firm has been withheld; and

(d) whether the defect was actually discovered before or after the rails were brought into use?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) A small percentage, *viz.*, less than 5% value of the rails were found not to conform to specifications.

(b) No loss has been incurred; nor is there likely to be any loss, as suppliers have undertaken to replace the defective rails.

(c) A sum of Rs. 10 lakhs, representing about 5% of the total value of the rails supplied and covering the full estimated value of the defective rails has ben withheld.

(d) The defects were discovered on receipt of the rails and before they were put into use.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know who carries out this inspection before they are delivered to the Railways?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The contract was made by the Iron and Steel Controller and according to the terms of the contract, there are certain nominated inspectors. That is the procedure.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether any advice was sought about these rails from the Research Centre at Chittaranjan and if so what was the advice?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Exactly. The rails were examined at the railway testing research centre, Chittarajan. Seven defects were listed. Defects 1 and 2 were not of a serious order. A majority of the 44210 rails passed in that test. Only 1075 rails—2·43 per cent of the total—came under defects III to VII. That comes to less than 5 per cent in value.

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: When the Railways have their own purchasing mission, how is it that this private firm was given a contract for importing these rails? Why could not they purchase them directly?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): There are certain stores and equipments which are purchased direct by the Railways. There are a large majority of stores and equipments which are purchased through the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply or through the Iron and Steel Controller. The rails are one of the items which are not purchased directly by the Railway Ministry but they are purchased through the agency of the Controller of Iron and Steel and, therefore, this tender was invited by them and the contract was given by them.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know if it is a fact that these rails meant for the main lines are now being used for sidings?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: They have not been laid in the sidings at all.

Theft of Railway Fittings

*316. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
Shri B. Das Gupta:
Shri Assar:
Shri Hem Raj:
Shri Onkar Lal:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that theft of railway fittings on certain Railways is on the increase;

(b) if so, the amount of fittings lost during 1959, Zone-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure safety of railway fittings?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Railway	Value in rupees of Rly. Fittings lost during the year, 1959.
Northern .	1,12,054
Central .	4,66,528
Western .	96,414
Eastern	5,68,328
Southern .	4,01,779
S/Eastern	2,36,750
N/Eastern	7,424
N/Frontier	10,810

The following steps are being taken by the Railway Administrations to ensure safety of railawy fittings:—

1. More intensive and frequent night rounds are made by the supervisory staff to ensure that the staff detailed for static and patrol duties are alert and vigilant.

2. Joint checks by the R.P.F., Carriage & Wagon and Electrical staff are carried out to locate the losses due to thefts and other causes.

3. R.P.F. escorts are provided on important passenger trains specially on vulnerable sections.

4. Provision of better security arrangements is being undertaken in respect of certain important items of fittings which are more vulnerable to thefts and pilferages.

5. Upper Class compartments when empty are padlocked.

6. Intelligence regarding offenders and receivers of stolen property is collected by the R.P.F. and passed on to District or Govt. Railway Police concerned.

7. Plain clothed staff of the RPF are deputed to detect the offenders.

8. Frequent raids are carried out by the R.P.F. in conjunction with the

police on the receivers of stolen property.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Why is it that the thefts of railway fittings have been on the increase? How many persons have been convicted for the theft?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I do not have the percentage of the cases of conviction, etc. In spite of all the precautions that we have taken there have been thefts largely in cities like Bombay and Calcutta where there are receivers of the stolen properties. We are trying our utmost to check the theft of electrical goods and materials.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether Government have examined the question of insuring against these thefts and whether insurance can be made against these thefts?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: There is no insurance except good behaviour on the part of all.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

Shri Balkrishna Wasnik: Sir, Question No. 329 may be taken up. It is a very important question.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

सोहना (पंजाब) का खनिज जल

*३०६. **श्री प्रकाशवीर शास्त्री** : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री ९ अप्रैल, १९५८ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १५५९ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने सोहना के खनिज जल के बारे में पंजाब सरकार को कोई पत्र लिखा है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके बारे में पंजाब सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) : (क) और (ख). भारत सरकार सोहना के खनिज स्रोतों को विकसित कर उन्हें आरोग्य स्थल में परिवर्तित करने के लिये पंजाब सरकार से निरन्तर पत्र-व्यवहार करती रही है ।

राज्य सरकार की प्रार्थना पर, पंजाब सरकार के अफसरों और कलावती सरण बाल चिकित्सालय में काम करने वाले रूसी विशेषज्ञों के साथ, स्वास्थ्य मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों और विशेषज्ञों का एक दल ९ जनवरी, १९६० को सोहना के खनिज स्रोत देखने गया । उनकी रिपोर्ट की एक प्रति राज्य सरकार को भेज दी गई है ताकि वह प्रारम्भिक जांच-पड़ताल करने के बाद इन स्रोतों का विकास कर के उन्हें आरोग्य स्थल में बदलने की संभावना पर विशेषज्ञों द्वारा विचार करने के लिये, आवश्यक सूचना भेज दे । इस सूचना की अभी प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है ।

चीनी

३०९. **श्री रामजी वर्मा** : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि चीनी के कारखानों को अपने कर्मचारियों को चीनी बेचने का अधिकार दे दिया गया है ;

(ख) क्या इस प्रकार बिक्री के लिये चीनी का कुछ कोटा निश्चित किया गया है; और

(ग) क्या कोटा निश्चित करते समय विभिन्न कारखानों में कर्मचारियों की संख्या का ध्यान रखा गया है ।

खाद्य तथा कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री ए० एम० थामस) : (क) से (ग). जी हां, उत्तर प्रदेश, उत्तरी बिहार और पंजाब जहां मिल भाव निर्धारित किये जा चुके हैं चीनी का कोटा ५ टन प्रति मास था जो अब, तीन मिलों को छोड़ कर जिनमें काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों की संख्या सम्बन्धी सूचना अभी प्राप्त होनी है, ५ बोरी प्रति सौ कर्मचारी प्रति मास कर दिया गया है ।

Inter-Ministerial Agricultural Production Board

*317. **Shri Inder J. Malhotra:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up an Inter-Ministerial Agricultural Production Board;

(b) if so, when was this Board constituted; and

(c) what is the main purpose of this Board and its sphere of activities?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) The Board was constituted in July, 1959.

(c) The main purpose of the Board and its sphere of activities are:

(i) to examine the final results of research having bearing on agricultural production and to make recommendations for the propagation and demonstration of such results by State Governments, with a view to their utilisation for improving agricultural production; and

(ii) to consider fresh problems have bearing on agricultural production for research, and to review the progress of work thereon from time to time.

Works Committee for I.A.R.I.

*318. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1312 on the 17th March, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the works committee has been formed in the Indian Agricultural Research Institute; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). The election of the Works Committee will be held on the 29th February, 1960. This Committee could not be formed earlier as the 'Indian Agricultural Research Institute Agricultural and Industrial Workers Union' objected to the exclusion of the names of daily paid casual workers from the list of voters prepared by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute authorities. A reference was, therefore, made to the Chief Labour Commissioner in the Ministry of Labour and Employment, and he has advised that those daily paid workers who have been in continuous employment for more than 6 months and are not less than 18 years old may be allowed to participate in the election of the Works Committee. The list of voters has been revised in accordance with this advice and the date of election has been fixed.

Madras Sugar Zone

*319. **Shri Subbiah Ambalam:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madras State has been declared a separate zone as regards sugar;

(b) the quantity of sugar released monthly; and

(c) whether sugar is easily available at reasonable price?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 10,000 tons.

(c) From the price reports received from the State Government it appears that sugar is generally available at the fixed prices.

Bombay-Agra Road

*320. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the condition of the Bombay-Agra Road has deteriorated in Bombay State; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to improve the condition of the road?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir. The general condition of the road is fair, but a small reach having cement concrete pavement at the Thal Ghat near Igatpuri has deteriorated of late. Also there was a breach in the approaches of the Sykes bridge across the Tapti river in mile 241 during the extraordinary high floods in September 1959.

(b) Necessary repairs are already in progress both in the Ghat section near Igatpuri and the breached portions near Sykes bridge.

Imphal Municipality

***321. Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the extension of the limit of the Imphal Municipality;

(b) if so, whether the next Municipal Election will be held on the basis of the extended municipality; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to replace the Assam Act by any other act for Imphal Municipality?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A proposal made by the Manipur Municipal Board that the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916 be extended to Manipur is receiving attention of the Manipur Administration. As an interim measure, the Assam Municipal Act, 1956 was extended to Manipur, with effect from 9th February, 1960 in place of the Assam Municipal Act, 1923 which was applicable to Manipur till that day.

Rice Stock in Orissa

***322. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:**
Shri Sanganna:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Orissa Government had asked for financial aid from the Central Government for maintaining a stock of 75,000 tons of rice for meeting the requirements of Orissa; and

(b) if so, what amount has been advanced so far?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). The Government of India had agreed to meet a part of the expenses of the Orissa Government for maintaining the reserve stock and their distribution. No amount has as yet been advanced to the Orissa Government.

Damaged Stream near Masulipatam

***323. Shri Madhusudan Rao:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1131 on the 8th December, 1959 and state the progress since made to strengthen the bank at the breach site of the damaged stream near Masulipatam?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): An estimate for closing the breach and strengthening the bank at the breach site on the lines of the suggestions made by Technical Officers of this Ministry has been prepared by the State Port Officer and is under the consideration of the State Government.

Robbery in Train near Shikohabad

*324. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**
Shri Bishwanath Roy:
Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:
Shri Ramji Verma:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a big robbery took place in train on Shikohabad section on the 16th January, 1960; and

(b) if so, what are its details and action taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir. The incident, however, occurred on the 15th January, 1960.

(b) On 15th January, 1960, when the local train between Agra and Farrukhabad started from Shikohabad at about 4 a.m., eight youngmen entered a third class compartment occupied by 6 passengers and looted them at the point of pistol and knives. The miscreants relieved the passengers of wrist watches, a gold ring, cash etc. valued at Rs. 780. The miscreants decamped with the booty as the train slowed down near Araon station.

Vigorous investigation by police is in progress.

Shortage of Power in Punjab

*325. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Punjab and particularly industries there are suffering from acute shortage of power;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to meet this shortage; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration to give back some power out of 60,000 KW allotted to Delhi from Bhakra Nangal system of the Punjab?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All available thermal units in State have been put into commission, and an over-all cut of about 30 per cent has been imposed on consumption of power.

(c) Delhi was receiving 20,000 KW from the Punjab. This has been temporarily reduced by about 30 per cent.

दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकार

*३२६. **श्री नवल प्रभाकर :** क्या **स्वास्थ्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकार द्वारा निर्मित कितने मकान दिल्ली नगर निगम को दिये गये हैं ;

(ख) वे किन शर्तों पर दिये गये हैं ; और

(ग) इस प्रकार हस्तांतरित अचल सम्पत्ति का अनुमानित मूल्य क्या है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर): (क) ४२८७ । इसके अलावा ६४० मकान, जो हस्तान्तरण के दिन अर्थात् १ जनवरी, १९६० तक बन रहे थे, दिल्ली विकास प्राधिकार द्वारा दिल्ली नगर निगम के हवाले कर दिये गये है ।

(ख) एक विवरण सभा की मेज पर रख दिया गया है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट १, अनुबन्ध संख्या ७४]

(ग) दिल्ली नगर निगम को हस्तान्तरित अचल सम्पत्ति का अनुमानित मूल्य २,०५,०८,८४२ रुपये (दो करोड़ पाच लाख आठ हजार आठ सौ बयालीस) है ।

Part-time Employment in Post Offices, West Bengal

*327. {**Shri Halder:** **Shri Hem Barua:**

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have planned to employ students on part-time basis in Post Offices at Calcutta and some other areas of West Bengal for handling the peak hour traffic and seasonal increases; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to employ those persons who have registered their names with the employment exchange?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) Yes. These orders are applicable to all P. & T. Circles.

(b) Yes, other than ex-employees and P. & T. pensioners who can be appointed direct.

Railway Level Crossings, Bikaner

*328. **Shri Karni Singhji:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 423 on the 30th November, 1959 and state whether any final decision has since been taken with regard to the three alternative proposals received for the removal of the hardships caused to the public of Bikaner due to the level crossings remaining closed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): Yes, Sir. The Chief Minister of Rajasthan has been informed that the only feasible solution to resolve the present impasse is the construction of an overbridge near Dungar College, in replacement of the two level crossings (1) on the K.E.M. Road and (2) on the Station Road. The State Government, if they approve of this proposal, should provide necessary funds in the State Plan for their share of the cost of construction in accordance with the extant rules, and intimate to that effect to the Northern Railway Administration, so that the Railway Administration so that the paration of the necessary plans, estimates, etc. for this work. If at a future date, there are traffic hold-ups at any of the remaining level crossings in Bikaner City, these can also be replaced by over|under-bridges when the State Government may feel such necessity and agree to pay their share of the cost.

Collision between a Glider and Pakistani Dakota

*329. {**Shri Balkrishna Wasnik:** **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** **Shri Raghunath Singh:** **Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:** **Shri N. R. Muniswamy:** **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently a Pakistan Dakota hit a Glider at Sonegaon airport killing one trainee and seriously injuring the instructor in the Glider;

(b) if so, how the accident took place; and

(c) the action taken by Government in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) to (c). A Dakota aircraft of the Pakistan International Airlines Corporation, while coming in for landing at Nagpur airport on the 29th January, 1960, collided with an N.C.C. Glider in the air resulting in the disintegration of the Glider and serious injuries to the Glider trainee and the instructor, the two occupants of the Glider. The trainee succumbed to his injuries. The accident is under investigation.

Rise in Prices of Oils

*330. **Shri Assar:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the prices of groundnuts, ground-

nut oil and oil-cakes have gone up very high recently during the last two weeks;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any action has been taken by Government to check the rise in prices?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) There has been a rise in the prices of groundnuts, groundnut oil and cakes in recent weeks.

(b) The rise in prices of groundnuts, groundnut oil and cakes has been due to increase in internal demand, reports of damage to the crop in 1959-60 season, coupled with the speculative activities of the trade caused by the expectation of a lower crop.

(c) Steps have been taken and continue to be taken to increase the production of groundnut and thereby augment the production of groundnut oil and cakes. Exports of groundnut, groundnut oil and cake are also regulated to check any abnormal rise in their prices. Measures to curb speculative activity have also been taken by the Reserve Bank and by the Forward Markets Commission.

Profits out of Cement Distribution

*331. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:
Shri Ajit Singh:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 59 on the 17th November, 1959 and state:

(a) the steps taken so far or proposed to be taken for utilisation of the profits of Rs. 6·99 crores made out of cement distribution by the State Trading Corporation of India Ltd., for construction of National Highways;

(b) whether any scheme in this regard has been prepared; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). A scheme for cement concreting about 147 miles of existing sections of National Highways, involving an estimated expenditure of about Rs. 4·63 crores, has been approved. Schemes are being formulated for the utilisation of the balance of Rs. 2·36 crores on cement concreting some more sections of National Highways.

परिवहन सहकारी समितियां

*३३२. **श्री भक्त दर्शन :**
श्री राम कृष्ण गुप्त :

क्या **परिवहन तथा संचार** मंत्री २५ नवम्बर, १९५९ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ३०८ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि परिवहन सहकारी समितियां स्थापित करने के बारे में इस बीच और क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : केरल में परिवहन सहकारी समितियों को चलाने के लिये कर्मचारियों का प्रशिक्षण सम्भवतः मार्च, १९६० के अन्त तक पूरा हो जायेगा । बम्बई को छोड़ कर दूसरे सम्बन्धित प्रदेशों में यह प्रशिक्षण जल्दी ही शुरू कर दिया जायेगा । बम्बई सरकार ने इस योजना को मौजूदा रूप से चलाने में अपनी असमर्थता प्रकट की है जो सरकार के विचाराधीन है । इन समितियों को चलाने के लिये सम्बन्धित प्रदेश सरकारों द्वारा मांगी गयी आर्थिक सहायता आदि का ब्यौरा तय किया जा रहा है ।

आंख की पुतली लगाना

*३३३. **श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री :**
श्री दी० चं० शर्मा :
श्री ले० अचौ सिंह :

क्या **स्वास्थ्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या किसी मृत व्यक्ति की आंख की पुतली किसी जीवित व्यक्ति के लगाने के प्रयोग भारत में कहीं हुए हैं ;

(ख) क्या सरकार इस के प्रशिक्षण के लिये कुछ चक्षु विज्ञान-वेत्ताओं को बाहर भेजना चाहती है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार रक्त बैंक की भांति विभिन्न स्थानों पर नेत्र बैंक स्थापित करना चाहती है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो ये कहां-कहां स्थापित किये जायेंगे ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) दो डाक्टर चक्षु-विज्ञान, जिसमें पुतलियों का लगाना भी शामिल है, के विशेष प्रशिक्षण के लिये विदेश गये हैं ।

(ग) और (घ). फिलहाल ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है । फिर भी निम्नलिखित अस्पतालों में पांच नेत्र बैंक कार्य कर रहे हैं :—

१. आसाम मेडिकल कालेज अस्पताल, डिब्रूगढ़ ।

२. गांधी नेत्र अस्पताल, अलीगढ़ ।

३. राजकीय नेत्र अस्पताल, मद्रास ।

४. राजकीय स्टानले अस्पताल, मद्रास ।

५. राजकीय एर्सकिन अस्पताल, मदुरै ।

Mata-Tila Hydel Project

*334. **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:**
Shri Pangarkar:

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 687 on the 8th December, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the revision of the Mata-Tila Hydel Project by the Government of Uttar Pradesh has since been completed;

(b) if so, the broad details of the revised project; and

(c) the circumstances which necessitated such revision?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected from the Government of Uttar Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Western Shipping Corporation

*335. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two Indian sailors of the Western Shipping Corporation's oil tanker "Desh Sewak" fell from a launch and were drowned in the sea near the marine oil terminal Bucher Island near Bombay on the 30th December, 1959; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof and action taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) Both the seamen were drunk and were quarrelling with each other. As a result one pushed the other overboard but having lost balance he himself also fell from the launch. Rescue operations were not successful as it was midnight and the visibility was poor.

The police have registered a case and the Shipping Master, Bombay has held an enquiry into this accident.

Railway Service Commissions

*336. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a copy of the report on the working of the Railway Service Commissions for 1957-58 and 1958-59 will be laid on the Table;

(b) what is the constitution of the Railway Service Commissions; and

(c) whether they submit Annual Reports to the Board?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Since the Railway Service Commissions are not statutory bodies like the Union Public Service Commission and the States Service Commissions, it is not proposed to place a copy of their Administration Reports on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) Each Commission consists of a Chairman and two Members.

(c) Yes.

Cast Iron Sleepers

*337. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the quantity of cast iron sleepers tendered for and actually obtained by the Government in the years 1957-58, 1958-59 and 1959-60;

(b) the quantity of short supply made by each firm on the quantity for which orders were placed; and

(c) whether it is a fact that several railways have complained of the short supply of sleepers ordered for their requirement?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the Railways and a statement will be placed on the Table of Lok Sabha shortly.

(c) No.

Subsidised Hostel at Secunderabad

*338. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 75 on the 4th August, 1959 and state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in the completion of the construction of the subsidised hostel for Children of Railway employees schooling at Secunderabad;

(b) when it is likely to be opened for admission; and

(c) what is the amount spent upto the end of December, 1959?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) The building, which was expected to be completed in January 1960, is now expected to be completed in March 1960.

(b) In June 1960, i.e., from the next scholastic year.

(c) Rs. 2·35 lakhs approximately.

Programme for Storage of Foodgrains

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Halder:
Shri Pangarkar:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in order to implement its big food storage programme the Government of India are considering construction of a number of silos and elevators for bulk storage of foodgrains in different parts of the country;

(b) if so, the number of silos and elevators, their capacity and places where they will be built; and

(c) the approximate expenditure which is likely to be incurred on their construction?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). Yes, it is proposed to construct some silos with elevators for bulk storage of wheat, for example, at Kalyani, near Calcutta, and at Borivili, near Bombay, and also at the ports through which wheat in bulk is imported, such as Calcutta, Bombay, Kandla etc., provided suitable land is available near the wharf. The

capacity to be built at each place is still under consideration.

(c) The cost estimates have yet to be prepared.

R.M.S. Sorting Section between Madras and Erode

*340. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1877 on the 21st December, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the Railway Board have agreed to provide R.M.S. coach for the new R.M.S. sorting section between Madras and Erode;

(b) what is the date by which the section will go into operation; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to avoid delay in implementing the decision?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) Not as yet.

(b) The Section will go into operation as soon as the Railways arrange to haul a mail van.

(c) All possible steps are being taken in the matter.

Derailment of G.T. Express

*341. { **Shri Madhusudan Rao:** / **Shri Mohan Swarup:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the circumstances in detail that led to the derailment of G.T. Express near Vijayawada on the 3rd February, 1960;

(b) the extent of loss and damages resulting therefrom; and

(c) the number of casualties suffered?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) On 3rd February, 1960 at about 18.49 hours No. 15 Down Madras—New Delhi Grand Trunk Express had to be stopped out of course at Valiveru station on the Madras—Vijayawada section of Southern Railway as the Main line Departure Signal for the train did not come 'off.' After stoppage, when the train was permitted to pass the Departure signal at danger under the prescribed written authority, it, instead of taking the main line, entered the sand hump as the points had not been correctly set. As a result of this, the engine and the coach next to it, derailed.

(b) Cost of damage to the Railway property has been estimated at Rs. 3,600.

(c) 16 persons sustained minor injuries.

Building Organisation for Posts and Telegraphs

*342. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** / **Shri Goray:**

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 162 on the 20th November, 1959 and state at what stage is the question of constitution of a suitable building organisation under the P. & T. Board?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): Inter-ministerial discussions have been held and the arrangements for devising ways and means of accelerating the construction programme of the P. & T. Department are being finalised.

Eastern Shipping Corporation

*343. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether two ships "State of Assam" and "State of Bihar" have been acquired by the Eastern Shipping Corporation; and

(b) if so, when "State of Bihar" will start on her "maiden voyage" from India to Australia?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) This is a second-hand vessel and was taken over at Rotterdam on the 11th January, 1960. She is expected to be free in Calcutta early in April, when she may be placed either on the India|Japan|Far East route or on the India|Australia route.

Canal Works in Rajasthan

*344. { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** / **Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have sanctioned a loan of Rs. 3.58 crores to the Government of Rajasthan in connection with certain canal warks;

(b) if so, the exact nature of the purpose for which the loan has been granted; and

(c) the terms and conditions of the loan?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The loan has been advanced for the execution of the Rajasthan Canal Project.

(c) The terms and conditions of the loan are under consideration.

Stabilisation of Assam Rail Link

354. Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far since September, 1959 in the stabilisation of the Assam Rail link; and

(b) the amount spent so far on this project?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Out of the total works involving 51 bridges, works on 31 bridges have been completed in all respects. The balance of the works have been taken up during the current working season.

(b) Rs. 2,97,85,000 have so far been spent up to December, 1959.

Dining Car on Bangalore—Poona Mail

355. { **Shri Vajpayee:** / **Shri Assar:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Dining Car is attached to the 201 Up Bangalore—Poona Mail at Belgaum at 18.03 hours so that passengers are able to get only their night meals in this car;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that as a result of the above arrangement, passengers are greatly inconvenienced;

(c) the difficulty in making arrangements so as to make provision for the morning breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea also;

(d) whether Government propose to make arrangements in this regard;

(e) whether this Dining Car serves only European style meals; and

(f) whether there is a proposal to introduce Indian style meals (vegetarian nad non-vegetarian) as well?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.
(b) No.

(c) and (d). There are Refreshment Rooms at suitable stations *en-route* to meet the requirements of the passengers for breakfast, lunch and tea, and the existing arrangements are considered adequate.

(e) This Dining Car serves Vegetarian and Non-vegetarian meals generally in Western style; but Indian style 'thali' meals are also made available on demand.

(f) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (e).

Assistance for Health Schemes in Delhi

356. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state the amount of assistance given to Delhi from the aid received from U.S.A. during 1958-59 and 1959-60 so far under the following headings:

(i) Medical Colleges and allied institutions;

(ii) Orientation Training Project;

(iii) National Water Supply and Sanitation scheme;

(iv) T.B. Control Programme;

(v) National Malaria Control Programme; and

(vi) Filaria and Leprosy control Programme?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): The information is as below:

	1958-59 Rs.	1959-60 Rs.
(i)	2,29,558	4,760 (Allocated)
(ii)	nil	nil
(iii)	nil	nil
(iv)	nil	nil
(v)	155,844	4,92,000
(vi)	nil	nil

Fruit Preservation Industry in Rajasthan

357. Shri Onkar Lal: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned and spent during the First Five Year Plan period for fruit preservation industry in Rajasthan; and

(b) the total amount sanctioned and spent for the same purpose during the Second Five Year Plan period?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). Nil.

Bahuda River Project in Orissa

358. Shri Sanganna:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri P. K. Deo:

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to Unstarred Question No. 330 asked on the 20th November, 1959 in respect of Bahuda Project in Ganjam District (Orissa) and state:

(a) whether any estimates have been received by the Government of India for sanction; and

(b) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). Preliminary report and estimates of Bahuda Project have been received from the Government of Orissa. Detailed project report and estimates have still to be prepared by the State Government.

Drinking in Trains

359. Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether drinking of liquor on the train is objectionable and a punishable offence;

(b) if so, whether such cases have been brought to the notice of the Railway authorities;

(c) in how many cases punishment has been awarded during the years 1958-59 and 1959-60 so far; and

(d) what is the maximum punishment awarded in such cases?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Drinking of liquor in trains is not an offence under the Indian Railways Act, 1890.

(b) While certain instances alleging drinking of liquor by passengers

while travelling have been brought to the notice of the Railway Administrations, in view of the answer to part (a) such cases are not regularly reported.

(c) and (d). Do not arise in view of the reply to part (a).

Refreshment Rooms

360. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Vegetarian as well as non-Vegetarian Refreshment Rooms do not exist on any of the Railway Stations on Delhi—Ambala and Delhi —Bhatinda Sections of the Northern Railway; and

(b) if so, nature of steps taken or proposed to be taken to provide Refreshment Rooms on these Sections?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No Refreshment Room has been provided at any intermediate station between Delhi—Bhatinda or on the direct route between Delhi and Ambala.

(b) At all the important intermediate stations over these Sections arrangements exist for sale of refreshments by vendors. Also buffet car services are run by some of the trains. These arrangements are considered adequate and there is now no proposal to provide a Refreshment Room at any of the Stations on these Sections.

Expert Committee on Co-operative Credit

361. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 853 on the 3rd December, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the Expert Committee on Co-operative Credit has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the main recommendations thereof; and

(c) the nature of steps taken to implement them?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

'Punarnava'—Medicinal Herb

362. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Shri Ramji Verma:

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 278 on the 25th November, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has since completed the analysis of the therapeutic values of the medicinal herb known as 'Punarnava'; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). The Indian Council of Medical Research has not yet completed the analysis of the therapeutic values of the medicinal herb known as 'Punarnava'.

Hospital at Imphal

363. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 313 on the 20th November, 1959, and state:

(a) whether the construction of hospital at Imphal has since commenced; and

(b) if so, the progress made?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). The construction of the hospital has not yet commenced. The plans and estimates are being examined by the Additional Chief Engineer, Central Public Works Department.

उत्तर प्रदेश में पुल बनाना

३६४. **श्री भक्त दर्शन** : क्या **परिवहन तथा संचार** मंत्री २१ दिसम्बर, १९५९ के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १८७३ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा भेजी गई तीन पुलों के निर्माणन की योजनाओं के बारे में इस बीच क्या निर्णय किया गया है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : केन्द्रीय सड़क कोष की सामान्य नियत निधि [Central Road (Ordinary) Reserve] से उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को इन पुलों के निर्माण के लिये कुल लागत का आधा अर्थात् ७.२५ लाख [illegible] अनुदान दिया गया ।

Shifting of P. & T. Directorate from Ambala to Chandigarh

365. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shifting of the Office of the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Punjab frm Ambala to Chandigarh has been completed; and

(b) if so, what amount has been spent so far for the construction of Offices and staff quarters at Chandigarh?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) and (b). No decision has been taken on the proposal for shifting the Circle Office from Ambala to Chandigarh.

Railway Over-bridges in Kanpur

366. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** / **Shri Tangamani:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a scheme to have some over-bridges in Kanpur;

(b) if so, the number of such over-bridges;

(c) the amount sanctioned for them; and

(d) when the work is likely to start?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Proposal has been received from the Kanpur Development Board for construction of a road over-bridge across Juhi Marshalling Yard near Govindnagar colony and the Northern Railway has been asked to prepare plans and estimates for the work.

(b) So far only the above bridges across Juhi Marshalling Yard is under consideration.

(c) As the estimates have not been finalised this point does not arise.

(d) Work will start after the estimate is sanctioned.

Sleepers from Canada under Colombo Plan

367. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the sleepers of Douglas Fir (British Columbia Pina) supplied by Canada under Colombo Plan cracked immediately after use and the trains derailed;

(b) whether any inspection was made before taking delivery;

(c) if so, who conducted the inspection; and

(d) whether it is a fact that these sleepers are now being used at sidings instead of main lines?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No, Sir. The sleepers are in a very good condition and there have been no derailments when they have been laid in track.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The sleepers are inspected

(i) By Pacific Lumber Inspection Bureau before treatment.

(ii) By MacDonald & MacDonald Ltd. or G. S. Elridge & Co., Ltd. or Coast Testing Laboratories in respect of treatment of sleepers.

(d) No; the sleepers are being used on main lines only.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में फल

३६८. **श्री पद्म देव** : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उन्हें पता है कि परिवहन की सुविधा के अभाव में नाना प्रकार के फल जो हिमाचल प्रदेश में बहुतायत से होते हैं उनमें काफी फल बरबाद हो जाते हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने इन फलों को बाजार में बेचने के लिये सुखाने की क्या योजना बनाई है ?

कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री मो० वें० कृष्णप्पा): (क) जी हां ।

(ख) फलों को बड़ पैमाने पर सुखाने और बेचने के लिये कोई योजना नहीं बनाई गई है । फिर भी, तकनीकों के मानकीकरण करने के विचार से हिमाचल प्रदेश प्रशासन के द्वारा स्थापित एक्सपेरिमेन्टल फ्रूट कैनिंग एण्ड प्रिजर्वेशन यूनिट (Experimental Fruit Canning and Preservation Unit) ने अनेक प्रकार के फलों के सुखाने और निर्जलीकरण (*dehydration*) के प्रायोगिक कार्य किये हैं ।

मेडिकल स्टोर्स डिपो, करनाल

३६९. **श्री पद्म देव** : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकारी [illegible] कम दवाइयां मिलता है

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि जो दवाइयां स्थानीय दवाई बेचने वालों से खरीदं जाती हैं जिसके कारण क्रेता और विक्रेत द्वारा भ्रष्टाचार को प्रोत्साहन मिलता है और

(ग) क्या सरकार इस स्थिति में सुधार करने के लिये कोई कार्यवाही कर रहीं है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) : (क) १९५९–६० में मेडिकल स्टोर्स की सम्भरण स्थिति में काफी सुधार हुआ । १९५९–६० में मांग कर्त्ताओं की औसतन ६९ प्रतिशत मांगो को डिपुओं ने पूरा किया । सम्भरण स्थिति को और भी सुधारने का भरसक प्रयत्न किया जाता है ।

(ख) बाहर से यानी स्थानीय बाजार से मेडिकल स्टोर्स की खरीद को प्रोत्साहन नहीं दिया जाता । अनुलब्धि का सर्टिफिकेट केवल उन्हीं मेडिकल स्टोर्स के सम्बन्ध में दिया जाता है जो सप्लाई के समय मेडिकल स्टोर डिपों में उपलब्ध नहीं होते ।

(ग) जी हां ।

Movement of Wagons

371. **Shri Assar:**
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Kunhan:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board has issued instructions to all zonal railways to take adequate steps to speed up the movement of wagons in order to cope with this year's heavy traffic and

(b) if so, the progress made in implementing the instructions?

The Deputy Minister of Railways

(b) A statement showing the performance on the Indian Railways during the year 1959-60, upto November, as compared to the performance during the corresponding period of the last year is laid on the Table of the Sabha [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 75].

Assault on Sub-Postmaster, Arjunpur, W. Bengal

372. **Shri C. K. Bhattacharya:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the postmaster and his assistant in the Arjunpur Sub-post Office, Burdwan, West Bengal were assaulted by some personnel belonging to Panagarh military base;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) whether the Post Office had to be kept closed for some days because the postal staff out of fear refused to run the office?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) Only the Sub-postmaster Arjunpur Sub Post Office (Burdwan) was assaulted on 31-2-59 by the son of an employee of Panagarh Military Base.

(b) A withdrawal sought by the assailant on the 30th December, 1959, from the S.B. Account of his father was disallowed by the Sub-Postmaster as the depositor's signature on the application for withdrawal did not tally with the specimen signature on record. The case is still under investigation with the Police.

(c) Yes. The Post Office remained closed in the afternoon of 31st December, 1959, and on the 1st January, 1960 as the Sub-Postmaster was injured and the clerk did not attend out of fear.

M.G. Rolling Stock

373. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rolling stock required for the metre gauge sections of Indian Railways for 1959-60; and

(b) the quantity of rolling stock for metre gauge sections manufactured in the country during 1959-60 so far?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):

(a) Locomotives (Steam)	98
Coaches (Numbers)	956
Wagons (in terms of 4-Wheeler units)	148
(b) (During 1st April, 1959 to 31st December, 1959)	
Locomotives (Steam)	80
Coaches (Numbers)	402
Wagons (in terms of 4-Wheelers units)	370

Manipur Medical Students

374. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the increase of monthly scholarship from Rs. 50.00 p.m. to Rs. 75.00 p.m. for medical students from Manipur has been given effect to; and

(b) if so, from which date?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar) (a) Yes.

(b) From the 20th November, 1959.

Rest Houses at Konarak and Bhubaneswar

375. **Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1304 on the 11th December, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the expenditure sanctioned for the construction of the rest houses at Konarak and Bhubaneswer has since been received from the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply; and

(b) if so, whether the execution of the projects has been undertaken?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a). Yes. Expenditure sanctions in respect of the rest houses at Konarak and Bhubaneswar were issued by the Ministry

of Works, Housing and Supply on the 20th January and the 1st January, 1960 respectively.

(b) The execution of the projects has been taken up by the Central Public Works Department and the construction is expected to start very shortly.

Missing Tickets at Samastipur Junction

376. Shri Anirudh Sinha: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large percentage of passenger tickets from down trains is missing daily at Samastipur Junction of N.E. Railway;

(b) if so, the percentage of missing tickets; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) About 35%.

(c) The down trains get detained at the outer signal during crossing, due to non-provision of facilities for simultaneous reception of trains. The passengers detrain there in large numbers on account of proximity of the courts and their tickets do not get collected.

फसलों को हानि

३७७. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि प्रति वर्ष २८ करोड़ रुपये की लागत की फसल दीमक नष्ट कर देती हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने फसलों को दीमकों से रक्षा करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री मो० वें० कृष्णप्पा): (क) यद्यपि दीमक[1] से फसलों को बहुत नुकसान होता है, लेकिन उनके वास्तविक नुकसान के बारे में कोई निश्चित अनुमान उपलब्ध नहीं है ।

(ख) फसलों को बीमारियों और कीटों से, जिनमें दीमक शामिल है, बचाने के लिये केन्द्रीय और राज्य पौध संरक्षण और अन्य संगठन तकनीकी और सामग्री की सहायता करते हैं । दीमक से बचाव के लिये उपयुक्त उपायों को निकाला गया है और इनमें कीट नाशकों का प्रयोग भी है । पौध संरक्षण उपायों के प्रयोग करने के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार किसानों को रियायती दर पर पेस्टीसाइड्स (pesticides), हैन्ड स्प्रेयरस (hand sprayers) और डस्टर्स (dusters) वितरण करने के लिये भी राज्य सरकारों को वित्तीय सहायता देती है ।

Central Medical Library

378. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri B. Das Gupta:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri S. A. Mehdi:

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to establish a Central Medical Library in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned for the same?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Government proposes to develop the present D.G.H.S. Library with a view to increase its utility.

(b) Rs. 50,000 during the current year.

Office of Joint Director of Food Cuttack

379. Shri Mahanty: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any employees of the Office of Joint Director of Food at

Cuttack have been declared surplus after the termination of Central Rice Procurement Programme in Orissa; and

(b) if so, how they are going to be absorbed?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). All except 15 class III staff and 23 class IV staff are being absorbed in vacancies in the Regional Offices. The question of absorbing the excepted persons is under consideration.

Price and Distribution of Rice in U.P.

380. Shri Kalika Singh: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state the steps so far taken under the Essential Commodities Act (Act X of 1955) in U.P. State regarding control of price of rice and its distribution and movement?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): Statutory Orders under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (X of 1955) in respect of rice have been issued for the State of Uttar Pradesh in regard to the following:

(a) restriction on the export of rice, paddy and their products from U.P.;

(b) licensing of dealers in rice and paddy;

(c) introduction of a levy system of procurement in 32 districts of the State;

(d) fixation of maximum control prices for different grades of rice in respect of transactions exceeding ten maunds in the said levy districts;

(e) restriction on movement of paddy from the levy districts (except in the case of the districts of Lucknow and Bara Banki);

(f) prohibition of movement of rice from the trans-Rapti and trans-Rohin areas in Gonda, Basti and Gorakhpur districts.

Co-operative Farming

381. Shri N. R. Muniswamy: Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dr. Otto Schiller, a German expert, had submitted a report to the Indian Government on co-operative farming ;

(b) if so, what are the salient features of the report; and

(c) whether the report will be laid on the Table?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir. The report of the German Agricultural Delegation led by Dr. Otto Schiller also deals with Cooperative Farming in India.

(b) A summary of the recommendations relating to Cooperative Farming is given below:

1. Evaluation of experience already gained in cooperative farming should be made.
2. Careful study of the economics, farm layout, employment, motive, etc. should precede the registration to ensure success.
3. True cooperative spirit should be developed among the members through suitable extension and training programmes.
4. Preservation of individual ownership right over the lands pooled should not only be agreed to but supported.
5. Smaller units of cooperative farms should be preferable. Two or three farms may be organised in the same village
6. For a suitable lay-out of fields, guidance of consolidation officer should be sought.
7. To begin with the prevailing system of "uniform fixed wages" may be adopted; differentiated pay scales

should be introduced in time. Special insurance fund may be created to equalise wage-rates.

8. Careful study of organisation and management including pooling of resources, formation of teams and distribution of work should be made to avoid unpleasant consequences.

9. Financial assistance loan or subsidies available should be related to the recognised production requirements, it should not result in denial of assistance to individual farmers.

10. Special training to extension staff and manager of cooperative farms should be provided. Services of trained personnel should be available to at least newly organised societies for the first few years.

11. No legislative measures should be applied to enforce cooperative farming.

12. Cooperative farming with or without pooling of land should be introduced in Bhoodan and Gramdan villages.

13. Necessary modifications in the land consolidation procedure should be made to facilitate development of cooperative farming.

14. If the pace of development to cooperative joint or collective farming is too rapid, it might affect agricultural production.

15. Members of the Better and Tenant Farming Societies should be apprised of the pattern of "individual farming on cooperative lines". Pilot projects in selected areas should be set up.

16. Members of disintegrated cooperative farms should be educated to take to "three-field-system" even after leaving the society.

17. Supervised credit linked up with production and marketing should be encouraged on the security of the farm organisations and marketing societies.

18. Cooperative Joint Farming as well as individual farming on cooperative lines should be promoted simultaneously. It will depend on local condition as to which type should be given preference.

(c) The Report is being printed. Copies of the Report will be supplied to the Parliament Library as soon as it is available.

Ayurveda

382. { **Shri Agadi:** / **Shri Wodeyar:**

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amounts of Grants given to the various States for research and development of Ayurvedic treatment under the Second Five Year Plan for the development of Ayurveda and other Indian Medicines; and

(b) the details of the amount utilised by the various States so far under the Second Five Year Plan.

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 76].

(b) All the amounts so far released have been utilised by the grantees.

Loan to Punjab

383. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any short-term loan has been given to the Punjab Government for increasing farm output during 1959-60; and

(b) if so, the amount of loan and the nature thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. A short term loan of Rs. 166.73 lakhs has been sanctioned for purchase and distribution of fertilisers.

Movement of Goods

384. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to improve the movement of goods on various railways during the period from August, 1959 to 31st December, 1959; and

(b) the percentage of increase in income as compared to 1958 for the corresponding period?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Steps taken to improve movement of goods on various railways are:—

(i) Close liaison with the different Railway systems with a view to ensure better co-ordination and improved wagon usage.

(ii) Introduction of Area Control Organisations for increased supervision and reducing detentions to wagons.

(iii) Introduction of Diesel traction in the mineral belt of Chakradharpur and Adra Districts of South Eastern Railway and on Dhanbad—Gomoh Moghalsarai section of Eastern Railway.

(iv) Introduction of crack specials link goods trains for improving the speeds of goods trains.

(v) Introduction of guaranteed Quick Transit Service on important trunk routes.

(vi) Block loading to the farthest possible point.

(vii) Formation of long distance block loads from important marshalling yards.

(viii) Provision of additional facilities in marshalling yards and terminal stations and line capacity works.

(ix) Introduction of night shifts at important transhipment points and goods sheds.

(x) Introduction of double placement in goods sheds at major stations and of night and Sunday work in a number of sick lines.

(xi) Carrying out light repairs to damaged wagons in yards instead of sick lines.

(xii) Providing additional shunting engines in yards and re-adjustment of locomotive allotment on various sections to meet the demands of increased traffic.

(b) 9.16% increase.

Conference of the State Ministers of Co-operation

385. { Shri Tangamani: / Shri Hem Raj: / Shri P. G. Deb:

Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of State Ministers of Co-operation was held at Jaipur on the 31st January, 1960;

(b) what was the agenda for the said Conference; and

(c) whether any decision was taken about increasing the marketing societies and making them effective?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) A copy of the agenda of the conference is given below:

AGENDA

The Conference on Cooperation held at Jaipur on the 31st January, 1960.

I. Consideration of the problems arising in the course of the implementation of policy laid down by the National Development Council in particular with regard to

(a) Co-operative education and training of office bearers, secretaries and members of co-operative societies;

(b) co-operative marketing;

(c) co-operative processing; and

(d) arrangements necessary for supervision and education of various types of co-operative institutions and members at appropriate levels.

II. Organisation of co-operative seminars at State, district and lower levels, particularly with a view to explaining co-operative policy to the workers in the field.

III. Measures necessary for ensuring speedy and sound development of service co-operatives.

IV. Broad aims and objectives of co-operation in the Third Five Year Plan, in conformity with the national objective of a Socialist Co-operative Commonwealth.

(c) Yes, Sir. The important recommendations of the conference, relating to Co-operative marketing are given below:

Recommendations regarding Cooperative Marketing

(a) Expansion of rural credit as envisaged would succeed only to the extent marketing activities are undertaken by co-operatives. For this purpose, credit activities of primary village societies should be effectively linked with co-operative marketing as well as processing of agricultural produce. The primary village societies should ensure that they enforce the agreements obtained from members regarding marketing of their produce through the marketing societies. For this purpose, the system of marketing panchayatdars may be introduced where necessary. A more concerted and intensive effort on the part of the village credit societies as well as the marketing societies, is called for if the programme is really to suceed.

The structure of co-operative credit marketing and processing needs to be suitably stream-lined to ensure efficient and prompt service to agriculturists in the matter of provision of credit as well as facilities for marketing and processing needs to be suitably stream-lined to ensure efficient and prompt service to agriculturists in the matter of provision of credit as well as facilities for marketing and processing of agricultural produce. The agriculturists should be satisfied that by marketing their produce through co-operatives they have obtained the best price ruling in the market.

(b) Adequate arrangements should be made for providing necessary finance to marketing societies for marketing operations. This calls for a reorientation of the policies and procedures followed by the State Bank of India as well as the Co-operative Banks. Further atcion, has, therefore, to be taken in the matter in consultation with the State Bank of India and the Reserve Bank of India.

(c) A minimum assured price for agricultural produce collected by the marketing societies would enable them to undertake marketing operations on a large scale provided that there is no statutory maximum prices or if there is such a price, it is effectively enforced.

(d) The present policy of allowing only the marketing societies to own godowns in rural areas needs to be reconsidered. Where village societies are financially sound and can operate rural godowns efficiently and economically, they may be assisted for

construction of such godowns on the understanding that they would extend storage facilities to the neighbouring villages whenever possible.

(e) Both in the interest of State Trading and co-operative marketing of agricultural produce, the co-operatives should be given monopoly for procurement of foodgrains, wherever state trading in foodgrains is introduced.

Demand for Fertilizers

386. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made in regard to the demand and supply of fertilizers in the country;

(b) if so, what are their estimates;

(c) the total amount of fertilizers (all kinds) allocated or earmarked for food-production and for other purposes respectively; and

(d) the total amount of fertilizers produced in the country and the quantity imported from other countries during the last three years?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Two statements are laid on the Table of the Sabha. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 77].

Bombay Port Trust

387. Shri M. B. Thakore: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that information was received by the Bombay Port Trust some months ago about the fraudulent dealings in the matter of supply of labour;

(b) whether any enquiry was made; and

(c) if so, what was the result of the enquiry?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The matter is under investigation.

Par-Boiled Rice

388. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that par-boiled rice is superior to ordinary raw rice in nutritive qualities;

(b) if so, what measures have been taken to popularise the procees of par-boiling throughout the country;

(c) what specific steps have been taken by Government to implement the new improved methods of par-boiling in the rice mills in the country;

(d) whether they are going to be introduced on a large scale; and

(e) whether the possibilities of using rubber roller type hullers by rice mills have been examined?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Apart from objections on sentimental grounds, unpleasant odour often stands in the way of larger consumption of par-boiled rice. Improved methods of par-boiling have been developed at the Central Food Technological Research Institute, Mysore, and at the Jadavpur University, Calcutta, by which par-boiled rice free from unpleasant odour and more attractive in appearance can be produced. How the rice millers can be persuaded to produce such par-boiled rice and how it can be popularised are now being examined in consultation with the Scientific Advisory Panel of the Food Department.

(d) Yes, it is the intention to encourage the production of par-boiled rice.

(e) Yes, rubber roller type hullers would produce less brokens, but such hullers are not being made in the country at present. Besides, Sheller type of mills are considered preferable to hullers.

C.D. Block at Khowai (Tripura)

389. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Advisory Committee has been formed for the Community Development Block at Khowai, Tripura;

(b) if so, whether all the members of the Tripura Territorial Council from that Block area have been included in that Advisory Committee;

(c) if not, the reasons threfor?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The two members of the Territorial Council from the Block have been included in the Advisory Committee.

(c) Does not arise.

Roads in Agartala

390. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the total mileage of Agartala town roads;

(b) the total mileage black-topped;

(c) the steps taken to black-top the Harigange-Basak Road; and

(d) the approximate date when the work of black-topping of all the roads of Agartala town is likely to be completed?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 39·01 Miles including lanes and bylanes.

(b) 5.15 Miles.

(c) Preliminaries have been completed and the work is expected to be started within a few days.

(d) The work of black-topping of all important roads of Agartala town is expected to be completed within the financial year 1960-61.

Cold Storage Plants

391. Shri Hem Barua: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up two cold storage plants—one in Delhi and the other in Madras—for preservation of fruits and vegetables;

(b) if so, what will be the capacity of these plants; and

(c) whether any date for the setting up of the plants has been fixed?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

12 hrs.

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE

AMENDMENT TO INDIAN TELEGRAPH RULES

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): I beg to lay on the Table, under subsection (5) of Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 1065 dated the 19th September, 1959 making certain further amendment to the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951. [*Placed in Library. See No.* LT-1920/60].

12.01 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

SEVENTY-THIRD REPORT

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): I beg to present the Seventy-third Report of the Estimates Committee on 'Preparation of Budget Estimates of Public Undertakings and Presentation of their Annual Reports and Accounts to Parliament'.

12.02 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

LIGHTNING STRIKE BY BOMBAY PORT TRUST WORKERS

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Transport and Communications to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Lightning strike on the 15th February, 1960 by the Bombay Port Trust Workers."

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): On the 3rd February, 1960, the General Secretary of the B.P.T. Employees' Union sent a communication to the Secretary, Bombay Port Trust, listing ten demands on behalf of Divers, Deckhands, etc., employed in the Salvage Section. It was mentioned in the letter that if the demands were not acceded to by the 15th February, 1960, the divers etc., would have no alternative but to go on strike. The General Secretary expressed his readiness to discuss the demands with the Bombay Port Trust authorities. However, he intentionally avoided doing so although he was in almost daily touch with the General Manager of the Bombay Port Trust until 9th February, 1960, when the latter left for Calcutta on tour.

On the 12th February, 1960, demands were made in writing on behalf of fitters and linesmen as well. Perhaps the idea was to win them over to the side of divers who alone had figured in the demands made on 3rd February, 1960.

On the 15th February, 1960, the caissons at the Victoria Dock entrance were to be lifted for the placement of new roller pathways. This was to be done primarily by the workers of the Salvage Section. All of them, numbering 93, however struck work on that date and are still on strike.

The Bombay Port Trust wrote to the General Secretary, Bombay Port Trust Employees' Union on the 16th February, 1960, that the demands put forward by him on behalf of the workers of the Salvage Section were highly exaggerated and unrealistic and that the action of the workers in going on strike was opportunistic and irresponsible. The Chairman of the Bombay Port Trust expressed his readiness to the demands being taken up in conciliation through the Regional Labour Commissioner and then referred to adjudication, if considered necessary, provided the strike was first called off. The Regional Labour Commissioner has actually tried to settle the matter in conciliation but because of the stiff attitude adopted by the workers on strike, no progress in that direction has been possible so far.

The Government have obtained a detailed Report from the Chairman, Bombay Port Trust on the demands made on behalf of workers on strike. They are in full agreement with him that the demands are ill-conceived and highly exaggerated. Chairman's offer to adopt the machinery of conciliation and then of adjudication, if necessary, stands, provided the strike is first called off. It is earnestly hoped that wiser counsels will prevail with the strikes and their leaders and that they will accept the offer.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I just want to know whether the Regional Labour Commissioner has submitted any report to the Government and whether in his report he has referred to the objections raised by the workers in regard to the Conciliation Board.

Shri Raj Bahadur: He is trying to contact the General Secretary who I am told is in Delhi. His deputy is there, and if the General Secretary can be contacted by the Regional Labour Commissioner, I think the matters will ease.

Shri Anthony Pillai (Madras North): The Minister said that the General Secretary was in contact

with the General Manager, almost daily, but he avoided discussion of these disputes. If he was really in touch with the General Manager, why did not the General Manager initiate discussion after the strike notice had been served?

Shri Raj Bahadur: That was sought to be done. So far as my information goes, even now the Regional Labour Commissioner wants to contact the General Secretary and my friend knows better that perhaps the General Secretary is in Delhi.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will put the General Secretary in touch with the Commissioner.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The General Secretary wanted to meet the hon. Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Over the head of the Commissioner! Let me pass on to the next subject.

12.06 hrs.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

FORTY-EIGHTH REPORT

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to move:

> "That this House agrees with the Forty-eighth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 22nd February, 1960."

Mr. Speaker: Let me put the motion.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): May I make a submission? The time allotted for the general discussion of the railway budget and the discussion and voting on the demands for grants in respect of the railways seems to be inadequate. It is 14 hours and 10 hours respectively.

Mr. Speaker: 24 hours in all. They have given five days. 24 hours come to five days minus one hour. If it is necessary, I shall extend it by one hour. We will have full five days then.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): Even one hour's extension will not be enough.

Mr. Speaker: Let us see. The question is:

> "That this House agrees with the Forty-eighth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 22nd February, 1960."

The motion was adopted.

12.07 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (GENERAL), 1959-60— *contd.*

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further discussion and voting on the supplementary demands for grants in respect of the budget for 1959-60. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi may kindly continue his speech.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi (Puri): Yesterday, I was referring to demand No. 120 relating to the purchase of food-grains as a result of the decision to extend the system of advance payment to the procurements made in Orissa and also to meet the larger advance payments in other States. For these, an additional provision of Rs. 10·70 crores has been asked for. In August, 1959, the total procurement made by the Government of India so far as rice and wheat are concerned was Rs. 15.44 lakh tons.

Mr. Speaker: Page number?

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: I am giving the figures which were supplied in answer to a question. For rice, it comes to 13·6 lakh tons and for wheat,

[Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi]

it comes to 2·38 lakh tons. After August, 1959, I want to know whether they are going to advance this money, Rs. 10·70 crores, to the different States including Orissa for further procurement of rice. If so, I want to know what is the amount of rice and wheat which they have procured after August, 1959, from the different States including Orissa.

I was looking into the amount of money which the Government have spent in importing food-grains during this period, and I wanted to know what was the total purchases the Government of India or the State Governments on behalf of the Government of India have made during this period. I was referring yesterday to the fact that after the creation of this zone, the Government of Orissa has sent 50,000 tons of rice and paddy to West Bengal. But the price of rice and paddy has gone up. During the last procurement period the Government of Orissa despatched 275 thousand tons of rice and paddy, on behalf of the Government of India, to West Bengal. I want to know what further procurements were made and whether the procurements were only 275 thousand tons of rice and paddy or anything else.

I now refer to demand No. 38 relating to Agriculture. An additional Provision of Rs. 151·02 lakhs is required to meet the increased expenditure on grants to State Governments as central assistance in respect of the State plans and schemes in regard to agricultural production and fisheries. Recently I brought this to the notice of the Food and Agriculture Minister in a consultative committee meeting. In Orissa, one of the biggest schemes of inland fisheries is the development of the Chilka Lake. For the last five or six years, the landing of fish in Chilka Lake is decreasing, because the mouth of Chilka is being silted up. The Orissa Government requested the Central Government for help, but exports are not available and for five or six years, the work is not being taken up. I would urge on the hon. Minister that this matter should be expedited, so that the dredging operations of the Chilka Lake may take place as soon as possible.

Now, a sum of Rs. 116·12 lakhs is asked for. We would like to know from the hon. Minister what further programmes were undertaken by the different States for increasing food or fish production in the respective States, for which Government have asked for the extra sum. In the explanatory memorandum those schemes have not been explained.

With regard to ground-water exploration work, it is not progressing well. In Orissa, 12 tube-wells were sunk, but I think they are not working. Under the TCA Programme, some irrigation tube-wells were sunk in the districts of Cuttack and Balasore, but they have not been put into operation.

Coming to External Affairs, the House has been asked to sanction more money for the resettlement of Tibetan refugees. Recently, in some newspapers, it appeared that more than 900 mules carried hoarded treasures of the Dalai Lama—gold bars and other valuable things—and they are being sold in the Calcutta markets by some Indian businessmen. I want to know whether Government know the exact extent of the hoarded treasure which was brought by the Dalai Lama to India and if so, whether any of this amount will come to the Government of India towards the resettlement of the Tibetan refugees in India. If that is so, then the burden of the Government of India will be lessened.

I understand some foreign countries or agencies are contributing to a certain Tibetan Aid Central Committee, which has been formed here under the sponsorship of a leader of a particular political party in India. I would like to know whether the

Prime Minister is aware of the amount of cash or goods which have been given as aid by different western countries or agencies for the resettlement of Tibetan refugees, and if so, whether Government have kept any account of the money which has been received and whether the money is being really utilised for the rehabilitation of the Tibetan refugees or for the benefit of certain political parties in this country. Government must keep an eye on the amounts flowing into the country for the resettlement of the Tibetan refugees.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): Shri Morarka is the Secretary of this Committee.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: It is good.

With regard to the demand for more money for census operations, I have a suggestion to make. In the questionnaire circulated to the different State Governments, the enumerators have been asked to enumerate the mother-tongue of the persons enumerated. But in the 1941 census, the difficulty faced by the Oriya-speaking population in the Singhbhum district in Bihar was really very serious. Those persons were recorded as doubtfuls. I think those persons who really want to enter their mother-tongue must be given protection. They should not be included in the list of doubtfuls. In 1941, more than 3 lakhs of Oriya-speaking people were enumerated as doubtfuls. I hope such mistakes will not recur and steps will be taken in consultation with the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities, so that the minority linguistic groups residing in different border areas may not feel that they have not been properly enumerated or their mother-tongue properly recorded.

With regard to the demand from the Ministry of Transport and Communications, I have one point to make regarding the construction of State roads of economic importance. I would like to know whether the State Governments have any master plan which has been submitted to the Government of India regarding such roads in their respective States or every year, they put forward their suggestions, which are considered by the Government of India. In Orissa, it has been recently pointed out to the Minister of Transport and Communications that because of Government of India's indecision in not approving the tenders, two bridges in the National Highway across the Mahanadi and the Birupa are not being constructed and they are being delayed. I would like to know whether the Government of India have stood in the way of the construction of those bridges.

In regard to State roads of economic importance, in Orissa, the State Government have put forward their own suggestions from time to time. I would like to know whether those suggestions are being carried out and the roads are being approved on certain principles, because many state roads of economic importance are not being undertaken, whereas roads of lesser importance are being undertaken.

I hope my suggestions will be taken into consideration.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am intervening very briefly, because the hon Member who was just speaking referred to certain treasures which, according to him, were carried by 900 mules to India. I have, as a matter of fact, agreed to answer a question in this regard, but I think the matter should be cleared up so far as we are concerned.

It was in 1950 that representatives of the Dalai Lama approached the Sikkim Durbar for being allowed to bring some boxes and to deposit them in the Sikkim Durbar. The Government of India had practically nothing to do with it. We vaguely heard about it and we took no objection to their depositing some boxes. We did not know what the boxes contained.

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

The 900 mules, I suppose, refer to that, because no mules have been seen since then in this connection. We have enquired about it. In 1950, a number of boxes were brought and deposited with the Maharajkumar of Sikkim. Lately, some months back, we were asked for permission or escort, so that these boxes might be sent to Calcutta to a bank. And the West Bengal Government gave the escort, and they were flown over, I believe, from there near Gangtok to Calcutta to deposit in some bank. We had no direct connection with this matter, except providing this escort, and we have certainly expressed the hope that this money—whatever the money may be; we have no idea what it is, how much it is—that it is meant to be invested and the income from it be used for the Tibetan refugees; that is what we have heard. It is desirable that it is so used.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: What is the amount?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have no idea at all, what the amount is. It is not a question of money, whatever it may be some jewellery, whatever it may be some jewellery whatever it may be. I have no idea. That is all I wish to say.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): I want to know the number of boxes that were escorted.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I suppose somebody must know it. I do not know at the present moment.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Excuse me for my intervening. It was in the newspapers that eight boxes were carried.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Eight?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It was in the newspaper that eight boxes containing valuables have been taken. We do not know what they contained.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I think there were a large number of boxes, small and big. I do not know the exact number, but there were a large number of boxes.

Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the supplementary demands involve an additional expenditure of approximately Rs. 90 crores, out of which Rs. 35·58 crores are on account of revenue and the remaining on the capital account. Out of these Rs. 90 crores, about Rs. 50 crores are recoverable on account of additional recoveries and adjustments and about Rs. 40 crores would be the net outgoing out of the Consolidated Fund. Of the total amount, approximately 50 per cent. is being accounted for on account of one single Ministry, the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel. I would, therefore, like to speak mostly on the demands relating to that Ministry.

It will be seen that for that Ministry, Rs. 4 crores are being sanctioned under demand No. 34, Rs. 9 crores under demand No. 84, Rs. 16 crores under demand No. 118 and Rs. 4·5 and 9 crores under demand No. 130.

Taking, first of all, demand No. 34. Provision is made of Rs. 4 crores for paying interest on certain amounts borrowed from Germany for the Rourkela steel plant. If you kindly look at page 20 of the Supplementary Demands for Grants, it is stated:

> "A sum of Rs. 3·82 crores is estimated to be paid as interest on these credits during the current year for which no provision could be included in the original Budget for want of complete details."

I do not know the complete details which were lacking at the time of the general budget. The agreement for this credit was made a few years back. The rate of interest was known and also the amount. It may be that the actual amount drawn was a little more than anticipated, or it may be a little less. But there is no justification at all for not making any

provision whatever for this amount of interest. It was a definite charge and it was known at that time that the interest at the rate of 6·3 per cent. is payable on this amount. As some amount was already drawn at that time. I cannot understand why no provision was made at that time.

In this connection, I would like to know the procedure that the Government is following in respect of foreign loans. So far as these three steel plants are concerned, it is stated at page 62 of this volume that Rs. 300 crores are given to these steel plants by way of capital. It is further stated that Rs. 73·10 crores have been given by way of loans in the year 1958-59. Another Rs. 145 crores are being given in the current year. This makes a total of Rs. 500 odd crores, *plus* these foreign loans. I would like to know from the hon. Minister who, unfortunately, is not here, the procedure about these loans and whether the foreign loans and the foreign credit and the deferred payments are over and above these Rs. 518 crores or whether it is covered. And if it is covered, I would like to know why these Rs. 4 crores are charged to the Consolidated Fund of India and why is this not paid by the Hindustan Steel Private Limited itself.

12.26 hrs.

[SHRI MULCHAND DUBE *in the Chair*]

Or, has the Hindustan Steel Private Limited already paid it to the Government of India and now the Government of India, on behalf of the Hindustan Steel, is defraying the charges? If that is so, I would like to know where and when this credit of Rs. 4 crores was taken by the Government, out of which this charge is being defrayed.

Then, demand No. 84 relates to payment of about Rs. 8·89 crores to the Steel Equalisation Fund. In this book there is no mention about the arrears in this account. You will remember, Sir, there was a question in this House that large amounts, about Rs. 20 crores, are due from the main producers of steel on this account, and the Minister had given an assurance that efforts are being made to collect that money. I hope, by this time, some progress is made in this direction. We would like to know the position, because some of the amounts have been outstanding since the year 1947-48, more than 12-13 years. So, it would be interesting to know the exact position obtaining today.

Here also my objection is the same. Why could this not be foreseen in advance? You will see from page 46 that the explanation given is:

> "The increased requirement of Rs. 900 lakhs for transfer to the Iron and Steel Equalisation Fund will be met to the extent of Rs. 10·96 lakhs from savings within....."

and that this has arisen because of the increased production by the main producers of steel and also by Bhilai and Rourkela steel plants. I would like to know whether this increased production could not be anticipated at the time of the general budget. Has the production been so high that the Ministry could not anticipate the production either at Bhilai or Rourkela or by the main producers of steel? And if the production has not increased beyond their expectations, why was this provision not made at the time of the general budget?

According to the published figures I do not think that the production of steel, either in the private sector or in the public sector, has gone beyond our expectations. If anything, the production in the public sector, particularly at Rourkela has been less than what the Government has expected. Therefore, this must be clearly explained.

Then I come to demand No. 130, about the purchase of shares in the National Coal Development Corpo-

[Shri Morarka]

ration worth about Rs. 4 crores and odd lakhs and also shares worth Rs. 60 lakhs in the refineries.

I have no objection to the purchase of these shares. But I do not like that one of the valuable opportunities for this House to discuss the functioning and the performance of any Corporation at the time of the initial appropriation, namely, at the time when Parliament sanctions its funds, should be lost like this. Therefore whenever the shares in any autonomous corporation are to be purchased by the Government, if the Parliament is called upon to sanction that amount that must come as a separate proposition before the House and should not be tagged with the Supplementary Demands. At the time of discussion on the Supplementary Demands the time allotted for discussion and passing is very limited and one cannot go into the details of the functioning of this Corporation. This House would be losing a very valuable opportunity if the share purchases are included in the Supplementary Demands. I agree that there must have been special circumstances and difficulties which compelled the Government to bring them up with the Supplementary Demands.

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): It is not the difficulties.

An Hon. Member: It is a new demand.

Shri Morarka: But then either the Government should wait till the next Budget or during the year itself should meet those additional demands by means of temporary loans etc. When a definite charge is being made on behalf of the Government on Consolidated Funds, I think proper opportunity should be given to Parliament to discuss the working of this Corporation. This is one of the most important occasions when one can discuss this. Therefore it should not be taken as a Supplementary Demand.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is the opportunity.

Shri Morarka: I am afraid it is not for the simple reason that the total time allotted for the Supplementary Demands is three hours....

An Hon. Member: Two hours.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): Three hours.

Shri Morarka: There is a confusion about the time, whether it is three hours or two hours.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): Three hours.

An Hon. Member: It makes no difference.

Shri Morarka: Anyway, whether it is two hours or three hours it makes no difference. The Planning Commission had laid down certain targets for the different Government collieries and in not a single colliery Government has achieved the target. The difference is not 5 per cent. or ten per cent. or 20 per cent. In some cases the target achieved is only to the extent of 5 per cent. whereas the amount spent is to the extent of 50 to 60 per cent. One can comment and discuss properly only if there are proper opportunities. Otherwise everything may appear nice and whatever amount is wanted we go on sanctioning it. So, I hope the hon. Minister, who is present here, would take note of these views and in future would avoid bringing such purchases of shares with the Supplementary Demands.

Now I want to say a word about the subsidy which is being given to the Air Corporation. I think so far as the Air Corporation is concerned, there is a basic defect and that is that the paid-up capital of this Corporation is very low. All their transactions are mostly financed by loans and on the loans they always pay a heavy rate of interest. If it was capital, then of course that amount of interest would not be payable. To

that extent the Corporation would be self-sufficient. So while there is a justification for giving this amount, there are a few points against this Corporation also.

You know, Sir, from time to time the Corporation has been increasing the fares. The services are also going fairly full now-a-days. People are becoming more air-minded and are making more and more use of this transport. Even so, the losses, particularly in the Indian Airlines Corporation are increasing. I do not know as to what the reasons are, but I think that there are some points where the management is very loose. I would like to illustrate my criticism with two particular instances.

The Air India International was operating a few services through Karachi. That business was looked after by our Indian Airlines Corporation office. A proposal was made that a special office of Air India International should be started at Karachi. Though it was not warranted by the traffic etc., still, the management of the Air India International sanctioned it. The person appointed in that office as the in-charge of that office was one gentleman about whom our High Commissioner in Pakistan had made a report that that person was having views which were anti-Indian. In spite of that, the Air India International could not find anybody else except that person to be in-charge of that office. Firstly, it involved unnecessary expenditure and secondly it gives a feeling that the office was started not because it was justified but to make provision for a person who happens to be, I am told, a relative of somebody in Air India International.

We read yesterday in the papers that the Boeing 707 has now come. I had asked a question in answer to which the hon. Minister of Transport and Communications said that the Delhi airport is not yet fit for receiving the Boeing 707 'plane. The 'planes have come and the service will start, yet our airports are not fit to receive them. I believe that an argument is going on between the Defence Ministry and the Ministry of Transport and Communications. The Defence Ministry does not want this airport to be extended whereas the Ministry of Transport and Communications is trying its best to make the airport ready for receiving this new aeroplane. I think that these are all avoidable difficulties. If there is better co-ordination between the two Ministries perhaps our airlines could work better.

There is a small point which I may also mention. It appeared in yesterday's newspapers that the Air India International have decided that air hostesses on this Boeing 707 would be provided with Banarasi *saris*. It is good. I do not object to it because they will look nice. But certainly Banarasi *sari* would not add to the efficiency of the hostesses particularly on the Boeing 707.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): Aid to the handloom industry.

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): It will add to smartness.

Shri Morarka: They have got a very great decorative value and, as the hon. Minister of Revenue says, they would look very smart, but apart from look there is work also which the air hostesses have to do. They have to do certain duties on the 'planes and I do not think that this would be very helpful. This is in a way a very small point but it indicates to the general attitude and where economies could be effected.

An Hon. Member: Outlook also.

Shri Morarka: Yes, outlook also.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Very vigilant hon. Members attracted even to details.

Shri Morarka: In conclusion, I wish to say that from the various Demands there is one conclusion which one can draw and that is that our budgeting

[Shri Morarka]

is a little bit loose. Most of the items are such which could have been budgeted for at the time of the General Budget. Why it was not done, one cannot understand. I do hope that the hon. Finance Minister and his colleagues, who are present here, would take note of this and at least in the future they will try to make our budget more precise.

श्री भक्त दर्शन (गढ़वाल) : सभापति महोदय, इससे पहले कि मैं पूरक अनुदानों के सम्बन्ध में अपने विचार प्रकट करूं मैं दो-एक प्रारम्भिक बातों का प्रारम्भ में ही जिक्र कर देना चाहता हूं । पहली बात तो यह है कि कुछ वर्षों पहले जबकि श्री देशमुख जी वित्त मंत्री थे तो मैंने निवेदन किया था कि जो पूरक अनुदानों की मांगों का विवरण दिया जाता है उसका हिन्दी संस्करण भी हमें उपलब्ध किया जाये । श्री देशमुख जी ने मेरी उस प्रार्थना को स्वीकार कर लिया था और प्रत्येक वर्ष हमें वह चीज मिलती थी । लेकिन इस वर्ष अभी तक कम से कम मुझे तो यह चीज मिली नहीं है । मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि श्री भगत जी जिन्होंने उस दिन भी इस बात का आश्वासन दिया था, इस ओर ध्यान देने की कृपा करेंगे ।

श्री बजराज सिंह : भूल जाते हैं आश्वासनों को ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : पिछले साल तक तो इस पर अमल होता था, पता नहीं इस बार क्यों नहीं हो पाया है । मैं आशा करता हूं कि इस ओर अवश्य ध्यान दिया जायेगा ।

नया बजट पेश होने में थोड़ी सी देरी है और हमारे सामने ८९.५७ करोड़ रुपये की नई मांगें रखी गई हैं । मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है कि नवम्बर दिसम्बर में इस चीज को क्यों नहीं रखा गया था । उदाहरण के लिए पृष्ठ ३६ पर मिनिस्ट्री आफ लेबर एंड एम्प्लायमेंट के बारे में बताया गया है :—

"Working Journalists Wage Committee, whose tenure was extended beyond 31st March, 1959, up to 31st May, 1959."

मई १९५९ में वह कमेटी समाप्त हो गई थी । मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है कि क्यों नहीं सितम्बर में या नवम्बर दिसम्बर में इसके बारे में पूरक अनुदान हमारे सामने रखे गये थे । ऐसा न करके अब फरवरी में जा कर इसे रखा जा रहा है । मैं समझता हूं कि भविष्य में जहां तक हो सकेगा

श्री दी० चं० शर्मा (गुरदासपुर) कौन सी है, ?

श्री भक्त दर्शन : डिमांड नम्बर ६७, पेज ३६ में यह बताया गया है कि वर्किंग जर्नलिस्ट्स के लिए जो कमेटी नियुक्त की गई थी, ३१ मार्च तक उसका टर्म था । लेकिन कुछ काम रह गया था इस वास्ते ३१ मई तक उसका टर्म बढ़ाया गया जिसकी वजह से कुछ रुपया ज्यादा खर्च हो गया । अब सवाल यह है कि जब मई में खर्चा हो गया तो फरवरी में इतने दिनों के बाद उसे रखा जा रहा है, ऐसा क्यों किया जा रहा है ? क्यों नहीं पहले इस चीज को रखा गया ? मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि भविष्य में इस तरह की बातों का ध्यान रखा जायेगा ।

सभापति महोदय, कुछ विरोधी दलों के सदस्यों ने इस बात पर एतराज किया है और खास तौर पर हमारे श्री तंगामणि जी ने, जो कि इस समय मौजूद नहीं हैं, किया है कि हमारे तिब्बत से आये हुए जो अतिथि हैं, जो शरणार्थी हैं, उनके लिए जो इतना धन खर्च किया जा रहा है यानी ३९.८९ लाख रुपये, वह नहीं किया जाना चाहिए या उसमें कमी की जानी चाहिए । पिछली बार जब ये अनुदान रखे गये थे तो मैंने उस समय भी

निवेदन किया था कि तिब्बत की स्थिति बहुत अशान्त है, अभी तक भी वहां पर सैनिकशाही चल रही है, बड़े पैमाने पर खम्पा लोगों का विद्रोह वहां पर व्याप्त है । अभी तक वहां पूरी तरह शान्ति स्थापित नहीं हो पाई है, इसलिए हमें काफी रुपया इसके लिए पहले से रखना चाहिए, और काफी रुपये की इस काम के लिए व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए । पिछले दिनों शायद ६ फरवरी को प्रधान मंत्री जी की ओर से जो वक्तव्य सदन के पटल पर रखा गया था उस में बताया गया था कि इस बीच में कई हजार तिब्बती शरणार्थी हमारे देश में आये हैं और वहां की परिस्थिति को देखते हुए यह हमारा नैतिक, धार्मिक और सांस्कृतिक कर्तव्य हो जाता है कि हम उनका केवल स्वागत ही न करें बल्कि प्रत्येक सम्भव तरीके से उनकी सहायता भी करें और उनके पुनर्वास की व्यवस्था करें । इस सम्बन्ध में मैं एक-दो और बातें निवेदन कर देना चाहता हूं ।

कुछ लोगों की ओर से यह आवाज उठाई गई है कि तिब्बती शरणार्थियों को हिमालय के क्षेत्रों में न रखा जाये क्योंकि वहां रहने से सामरिक दृष्टि से स्थिति के बिगड़ जाने की आशंका है या चीन सरकार हम पर नाराज होती है कि उनको सीमा क्षेत्र के इतना नजदीक क्यों रखा जा रहा है । लेकिन इस सम्बन्ध में मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि तिब्बती शरणार्थी एक ऐसे ठंडे देश से हमारे देश में आ रहे हैं कि अगर हम ने उन को गर्म स्थानों में रखा तो उनका स्वास्थ्य बिगड़ जायेगा और वहां पर रहना वे स्वीकार नहीं करेंगे, बीमार पड़ जायेंगे और उनको तरह तरह की तकलीफें होंगी । ऐसी स्थिति में एक ही उपाय है कि हिमालय के क्षेत्र में ही उनको रखा जाये ।

यहां पर मैं यह भी निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि पिछले वर्ष से महामान्य दलाई लामा हमारे मेहमान हैं और वे मसूरी में रह रहे हैं । मसूरी जो कि उजड़ गई थी इस बीच कुछ बसनी शुरू हो गई थी, और उसकी हालत कुछ सुधर गई थी । पिछले वर्ष कई हजार विदेशी पर्यटक, विदेशी पत्रकार और हमारे देश के लोग भी मसूरी गये हैं और उन्होंने जा कर उनके दर्शन किये हैं । अब इस तरह की एक खबर सुनाई दे रही है कि कुछ ही दिनों में दलाई लामा को डलहौजी या धर्मशाला ले जाया जा रहा है । मुझे पता नहीं है कि यह निर्णय क्या स्वयं शासन ने किया है या स्वयं दलाई लामा ने अपनी यह इच्छा प्रकट की है कि वे अपने तिब्बती साथियों के बीच में रहना चाहते हैं । जो हो, मैं इतना ही निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि हमारे उत्तर प्रदेश के जो पर्वतीय स्थान हैं, उनमें मसूरी पर्वतों की रानी कहलाती है और अंग्रेजों के जाने के बाद उसमें थोड़ा सा विषवापन आ गया था और अब दलाई लामा की वजह से थोड़ी-बहुत श्रृंगार की पुट उसमें आ गई है; उसको फिर से उजड़ने न दिया जाये । मैं अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि यदि इस समाचार में कुछ भी सच्चाई का अंश हो तो दलाई लामा से अनुरोध किया जाये कि वे वहीं रहें और उनके लिए मसूरी में रहने की व्यवस्था रहे । बिड़ला जी ने उनके वास्ते जो भवन दिया हुआ है, इसके लिए हम उनके अनुग्रहीत हैं । लेकिन मैं समझता हूं कि लाखों रुपया खर्च करने के बाद अब फिर दलाई लामा के वास्ते डलहौजी में नई व्यवस्था करना उचित नहीं होगा ।

श्रीमान्, कल श्री मोहम्मद इमाम साहब जब भाषण कर रहे थे तो उन्होंने यह कहा था कि नैशनल अकादमी आफ एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन को मसूरी में क्यों रखा गया है और उन्होंने उसको यहां रखे जाने पर एतराज करते हुए कहा था कि इसको हैदराबाद में या नागपुर में या कहीं और रखा जाये । मैं समझता हूं कि अगर उनकी यह दलील मान ली जाये तो फिर राजधानी भी यहां एक कोने में नहीं रहने दी जानी चाहिए, क्यों न इसे भी किसी केन्द्रीय स्थान में ले जाया जाये ? जहां तक मुझे

[श्री भक्त दर्शन]

मालूम है कि बड़े विचार विमर्श के बाद, बहुत सोच-विचार के बाद मसूरी को इसके लिए छांटा गया था और इसके बाद जो बिल्डिंग ली गई वह सभी दृष्टिकोणों से उपयुक्त थी । पहले भी अंग्रेजों के जमाने में आइ० ए० सी० ट्रेनिंग स्कूल देहरादून में था । इसलिए इसको देहरादून या मसूरी में रखना हर दृष्टिकोण से उपयुक्त है । इस सम्बन्ध में जो खर्चे की मद रखी गई है उसके सम्बन्ध में मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि मुझे बतलाया गया है कि अभी तक भवन के पूरी तरह से निर्मित न होने के कारण अध्यापकों को और विद्यार्थियों को बहुत सी कठिनाइयां उठानी पड़ रही हैं और इस वास्ते मैं अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि मसूरी से उसको हटाने का तो प्रश्न ही नहीं पैदा होता, जो निर्णय हो चुका है, उसको बदलने का सवाल ही पैदा नहीं होता, वह तो वहां रहना ही चाहिए, लेकिन साथ ही साथ जो भवन निर्माण का काम है उसमें और तेजी लाई जाये, और उसको तेजी के साथ आगे बढ़ाया जाये ।

इस सिलसिले में मैं एक और निवेदन करना चाहता हूं । मैंने इसके अन्दर एक स्थान पर देखा है जिससे पता चलता है कि जहां और विषयों के प्रोफेसर्स को ८००, १२०० या १६०० रुपये तक का वेतन दिया जायेगा वहां बेचारे हिन्दी के शिक्षकों को २०० रु० ही वेतन दिया जायेगा । मैं समझता हूं कि शायद अभी तक भी हमारे अन्दर हिन्दी के शिक्षकों के साथ या हिन्दी की शिक्षा के साथ सौतेले बच्चे का सा व्यवहार करने की जो मनोवृत्ति चल रही है, उसी का यह भी प्रतीक है । इस सम्बन्ध में मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि पिछले दिनों जब राज भाषा आयोग ने अपनी रिपोर्ट दी थी और उसके बाद संसदीय समिति ने उस पर अपना प्रतिवेदन दिया था, उस में इस बात को स्वयं शासन की ओर से भी स्वीकार किया गया था कि अगर हिन्दी को सभी विषयों के माध्यम के रूप में स्वीकार नहीं किया जा सकता हो तो भी कम से कम एक अनिवार्य विषय के रूप में तो उसको अवश्य रखा जाये । मैं आशा करता हूं कि मसूरी में जो प्रतिष्ठान इतनी बड़ी शान के साथ चल रहा है वहां पर इस बात का ध्यान रखा जायेगा कि वहां हिन्दी की शिक्षा अनिवार्य रूप से दी जाय; साथ ही मैं आशा करता हूं कि हिन्दी के शिक्षकों के साथ जो यह सौतेले बच्चे का सा व्यवहार किया जाता है इसको समाप्त कर दिया जायेगा ।

सभापति महोदय, केवल एक बात की ओर और मुझे इशारा करना है । पृष्ठ २४ में कहा गया है कि सैंसस होने वाली है, जनगणना होने वाली है और उसके लिए रुपया मांगा गया है । इसके बारे में मुझे कुछ निवेदन करना है । सन् १९५१ में जो जनगणना हुई थी उस में चार भाषायें एक साथ बताई गई थीं, हिन्दी, उर्दु, हिन्दुस्तानी और पंजाबी । इन चारों भाषाओं को मिला करके कहा गया था कि ४२ प्रतिशत ऐसे लोग हैं जिन की भाषा या तो हिन्दी है, या उर्दु है, या हिन्दुस्तानी है और या पंजाबी है । उस वक्त पंजाब की स्थिति इतनी असाधारण थी कि वहां पर जनगणना पूरी तरह से नहीं की जा सकी और एक मोटा सा अनुमान लगा लिया गया । मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि इस बार हिन्दी, उर्दु और पंजाबी के जितने भी आंकड़े हैं, वे अलग-अलग एकत्र किये जायें और हिन्दुस्तानी भाषा क्या चीज है, यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है । अगर यह उर्दु मिश्रित भाषा है तो इसको उर्दु में रखा जाये, अगर देवनागरी लिपि में उसको स्वीकार किया जाता है तो उसे हिन्दी में रखा जाये । संविधान द्वारा जो १८ भाषायें स्वीकृत की गई हैं, उनमें भी हिन्दुस्तानी कोई भाषा नहीं है, या तो हिन्दी है और या उर्दु है । हिन्दुस्तानी का यह मिक्सचर क्या है, मुझे पता नहीं । हिन्दी और उर्दु के बीच का जो मिक्सचर है, वर्णसंकर भाषा हिन्दुस्तानी को रखा गया है, इसकी क्या जरूरत है । इसलिए मैं निवेदन

करना चाहता हूं कि अगले सैंसस में जो सैंसस आफिसर्स हैं, वे इस बात का ध्यान रखें ।

दूसरा निवेदन मेरा यह है कि राज भाषा आयोग ने अपनी रिपोर्ट के चैप्टर ३, पेज २६, पैरा ६ में एक महत्वपूर्ण सिफारिश जनगणना के बारे में की थी, जिसे मैं आपकी आज्ञा से पढ़ देना चाहता हूं । यह छोटा सा पैरा है और इस प्रकार है :—

"Information regarding bilingualism particularly with reference to knowledge of the Hindi language would in our opinion, be of considerable use in future in the context of the language problem of the country. We would suggest for the consideration of census authorities the institution of a question indicating linguistic ability in the Hindi language on the part of speakers of non-Hindi mother tongues all over the country at the next and subsequent censuses".

मैं इस बारे में शासन का ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूं कि अब तक यहां यह दलील दी जाती रही है कि हिन्दी वाले तो केवल ४० प्रतिशत हैं, बहुमत तो अहिन्दी भाषी लोगों का है । लेकिन जिन लोगों की मातृभाषा चाहे गुजराती हो, चाहे मराठी हो, चाहे बंगाली हो, चाहे आसामी हो या उड़िया हो, फिर भी द्वितीय भाषा के रूप में उन्हें हिन्दी का काफी ज्ञान है । मैं समझता हूं कि हमारा गृह मंत्रालय, जब जनगणना का विचार किया जा रहा है, इस बारे में ध्यान देने की कृपा करेगा ।

Shri L. Achaw Singh (Inner Manipur): I have moved a number of cut motions, and I would like to refer to them one by one.

Demand No. 38 relates to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture. A sum of Rs. 34·9 lakhs is required for the continuance of the exploratory work for sinking irrigation tube-wells, and another sum of Rs. 116·12 lakhs is required as grants to State Government towards agricultural production and fisheries.

The organisation of exploratory tube-wells was started in 1954 in 15 places but it could not complete its work according to schedule. So, there is a proposal that the work should continue. Hence there is this demand. I want to know the progress of this organisation. The notes do not indicate the progress so far made, when it is going to be completed, and how much money has been already provided. We admit that the project which has been started in U.P. is a very good one, but we want to make sure that the technical and financial assistance given by the U.S. Government are fully utilised. In the absence of all these details which are required for voting on this Demand, it is rather a little too much for Government to ask for such a huge sum.

I want the Ministry also to enlighten us as to how many wells have been already bored, and what kind of hydrological and geological data have been collected so far, and whether in the selected areas, it would be possible to sink irrigation tube-wells on the basis of the preliminary findings. Nothing is mentioned in the Explanatory Memorandum about the places selected also. We shall be glad if the Ministry could enlighten us also about the extension of the scheme to other States in India.

Regarding additional grants given to the State Governments, it is necessary to see that the purposes for which these grants have been given are really fulfilled. Agriculture is a State subject, and it is quite evident that there is a lack of proper co-ordination between the State Governments and the Centre, especially in respect of the implementation of the State Plan schemes. More than Rs. 9 crores have already been provided in the budget for 1959-60. We wonder if the State Governments are regularly supplying reports about the progress of agricultural production in their respective areas, and if they really comply with the directives of

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the Planning Commission in respect of these schemes. So far, we have been far from attaining self-sufficiency in food production. Unless there is proper co-ordination between the Centre and the States regarding a comprehensive programme of agricultural development, for evolving a self-generating diversified agricultural economy, it will not be possible for us to increase our agricultural production. We have to utilise the land and water resources to our best advantage, and we have to adopt also scientific methods which can increase our production. The ordinary farmer is not so much concerned with the imposing figures and the data supplied by the experts, that is, the so-called experts. These figures would not help us much. Parliament has to ensure, and Government also have got to see that the grants which have been given to the State Governments are properly utilised and the actual production targets are achieved in the different States.

In the sphere of fishery development, I doubt very much if the plan schemes are carried out properly. In my State, namely the Union Territory of Manipur, certain schemes have been taken up, but then, they have been given up ultimately. The price of fish is very high there, and ranges from Rs. 6 to Rs. 9 per seer. The people there do not take meat, and their only protein food is fish. So, it is necessary that there should be proper development of fisheries there. The Fisheries Department in the Union Territory is actually interested only in selling the fisheries, and are not interested in having fishery development and more production of fish. The Centre should look into all these irregularities and ensure that the grants are effectively utilised for the benefit of our people there.

Regarding Demand No. 84, a supplementary grant of Rs. 889·04 lakhs has been asked for transfer to the Iron and Steel Equalisation Fund. This fund is utilised for subsidising imports of iron and steel, granting of advances to the main producers for development, and fixing uniform prices for the sale of iron and steel. The fund was specially brought into being to subsidise the high-cost imports. It will have a diminishing utility when our huge steel plants have gone into full production; and with increasing production, the imports would also fall. There is a demand from the private sector of the steel industry that the price of steel should be lowered. Even then, I would not be in favour of a reduction in the selling price. For, I would like to point out that the price fixed for sale of steel is the equalisation price, so that there is no difference between the price of the imported and indigenous steel. What I want to submit is that the reduction of the price at which steel is sold to the consumers does not affect the private steel producers at all. The surcharge which is contained in the present selling price of steel provides an element of cushioning which could be suitably adjusted downwards, should it prove necessary to stimulate the demand for steel. But we find that the demand for steel is strong, and there is no necessity of any reduction in the price of steel. The middlemen's profit in the steel trade is already high, and the reduction in the price at which steel is sold to the trade under the present conditions will only increase the middlemen's margin.

Now, I would like to refer to Demand No. 91. We are asked to vote here for a supplementary grant of Rs. 523·81 lakhs as subsidy to the I.A.C. The corporation has been running at a loss, and it is welcome that Government have decided to make good the losses by the grant of a direct subsidy. We have learnt that the subsidy will be granted on the basis of the standard costs. We have to take every care, however, that the tax-payers are not penalised. What I mean to say is that the subsidy is

granted from the exchequer, that is, the taxes paid by the general public. The travelling public is very much limited in India, and for the sake of a few air-travellers, it will not be just to continue the subsidy for all time to come. The corporation has, of course, shown a declining trend in losses in recent years. That is good. But I feel that there is still scope for improvement in the services and also better financial results of its operations, so that the Government, the general public and the passengers could be fully satisfied. It is necessary that there should be further rationalisation of the fare structure and also reorganisation and stabilisation of the route pattern so that we may achieve progressive economy in the cost of operation. There are several items on which economy can be effected. The Estimates Committee of the Lok Sabha in their 43rd Report have observed that there are a number of items on which economy can be effected. One is standardisation of the fleet with a minimum number of types of aricraft. Then we have to stop disproportionate rise in expenditure under certain heads such as general administration, traffic and sales, booking agency commission etc. We can also cut down some expenditure on fuel by avoiding bad navigation and wasteful practices. The Corporation should try to achieve these objectives at the earliest opportunity.

13 hrs.

Then I would like to refer to Demand No. 93 involving an additional sum of Rs. 3·53 lakhs for maintenance and repairs of roads other than National Highways in the various Union Territories. In the current budget, there is already a provision of Rs. 80 lakhs. But an additional Rs. 10 lakhs would now be required for the purpose. My experience is that roads in Union Territories are not properly maintained. I have pointed out to the Manipur Administration how the roads, including National Highways, are being neglected. They are not repaired in time; when they are, it requires much more expenditure to do that on a later occasion. The road from Mao to Moreh on the Burma border—Moreh is the outpost on the Burma border—is in such a bad condition that any vehicles which ply on it are damaged within a short period. The road from Imphal to the Manipur aerodrome is in a state of neglect; so are several other roads. The airfield is only 5 miles from Imphal; but there are a number of pot-holes which have never been repaired, which may be repaired only when winter comes. That means, during the other seasons of the year, they do not care to repair all these roads.

There is another Demand, No. 134 for Rs. 50 lakhs for the construction of roads other than National Higways in Union Territories. We have got two schemes—the construction of the Cachar Road and that of the Tamenglong Road. The Tamenglong Road is an important road. Construction of this was started during the First Plan, but the progress is very disappointing. It is now put under the Second Five Year Plan. It is only 87 miles. But we are not going to complete it even during the Second Five Year Plan.

The Cachar Road which connects Imphal with Silchar in Assam is a long one. It is about 190 miles long. The work was already started. Now what I learn is that there is a lot of delay in the construction of that road. Bills are drawn on a daily rated basis. Actual construction has not been there. But fictitious payments have been made. That is my report. I have got it from a very reliable source. The Principal Engineering Officer and other executive officers of the P.W.D., Manipur, never go to that place which is remote because they say that they are disturbed areas, their personal safety is in danger. They do not like to go there. They are only interested in drawing their salaries. They are not interested in getting things done. That is the difficulty.

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Then there is Demand No. 97—an additional provision of Rs. 191·56 lakhs for maintenance of a reasonable stock of building materials for construction programmes undertaken in Union Territories. Manipur is a Union Territory. There is the Imphal Waterworks Scheme which has not been carried out, though it was formulated during the First Plan. There has been a lot of change of schemes. A sum of Rs. 10,000 has already been invested on building houses, and some work started. Now there is another proposal which would involve a heavier capital expenditure on account of change of programme. The works had been much delayed. There was the question of foreign exchange also in obtaining pipes for carrying the water. I feel that the Government should have looked into this before they started the original scheme. Now there is a second scheme. I am afraid the implementation of this scheme would be much delayed.

Then there is a new aerodrome which was constructed and which is almost being completed now. Then there are the posts and telegraphs headquarters. All these things have been constructed, but because building materials were not available and could not be delivered in time, because Manipur is situated in a corner, in a remote area, the works could not be completed in time. I would like to ask the Ministry to make enough provision for all these things before they proceed with the implementation of such Central schemes.

Lastly, I would say a word about the tele-communication scheme in Assam. Under Demand No. 131, there is a provision now for uninterrupted tele-communication channels from Dibrugarh to Gauhati. We welcome it. In Assam and in the other parts, specially NEFA, Manipur, NHTA and so on, the tele-communication services are no better than the regular mail service, because often our telegrams are carried by mail when there is a storm, when there is a disturbance in some part of the country. Also, because they are all situated in jungles and forests, our tele-communication services are very much interrupted.

We are glad that Government have made some provision for quickening the tele-communication service in Assam. I would request the Ministry to provide also such facilities for communication between Assam, Manipur, NHTA, NEFA and also Tripura, because they are very much needed in those areas.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Deputy Minister of External Affairs.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: What about the other Demands?

Mr. Chairman: I will come to that later.

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): Yesterday, some Members of the Opposition while discussing Supplementary Demand No. 18 wanted to know more about the Demand and also what we are doing with regard to the Tibetan refugees. To begin with, I am very happy to announce that this Supplementary Demand is not really due to bad budgeting, but as a result of unforeseen circumstances.

We had already come to the House for a grant of Rs. 10 lakhs in August last. The House was kind enough to sanction the grant. I would like the House to know that this was only an *ad hoc* grant because at that time we did not know the magnitude of the problem that we had to face. The Tibetan refugees were coming in large numbers, but even so we had never imagined that the number would mount up to the present figure of over 16,000. So far, we have already spent Rs. 14,73,562 and 8 nP. That is the total expenditure incurred on the Missamari camp up to 31st October, 1959.

A question was also asked whether these amounts include the expenditure on the Dalai Lama as well. Out of this, about Rs. 6,13,000 is in respect of the amount already spent by the U.P. Government for the Dalai Lama and his party.

We were also asked whether this is going to be a regular feature of our Budget or whether we would stop asking for money for the Tibetan refugees with Rs. 39 lakhs odd. Hon. Members know that over 16,000 people who have come out to India have come away with condtions which they had found very difficult to face. It is not likely that these people will return to their original homes. The Government are fully aware of the situation and the need to face it and are making arrangements for their training, for their rehabilitation and for their settlement and absorption in our country.

Yesterday a question was also asked as to what arrangements we are making for their rehabilitation. Having found that it was necessary to rehabilitate them, we have done certain things which were already explained to the House on previous occasions by me. That is, the young people are put in schools. Those who are dedicated to a religious life have been provided with religious education and those who are old and infirm have been provided suitable accommodation and facilities to pursue their studies in perfect peace.

We have also made arrangements for their rehabilitation in various ways. Some of them are artisans and we have got production centres in which they ply their traditional arts which have an artistic value. We are also giving training to those who are anxious to learn these arts. Thousands of able-bodied men are taken for road-making in various parts of India. I do not know whether hon. Members would like to know how they are dispersed. They are doing road work in Sikkim, in Punjab, in Himachal Pradesh and in Uttar Pradesh.

We are also thinking of settling them on land. One of the hon. Members raised the question whether it was advisable to settle them in the frontier areas. One of the previous speakers, Shri Bhakt Darshan, has already given the explanation. These people are settled not very near the border but in those areas where climatic conditions are more suitable for healthy living and also where land is available. For our own refugees who have come from East Pakistan, Government have the Dandakaranya scheme for the simple reason that the available cultivable land in India is limited and we have to reclaim lands which are forest lands now in order to provide cultivable land for those who wish to settle on land.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: What is the number engaged in road construction?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I will tell you. On road work in Punjab 500 persons; on forest work 400 persons; on road work in Himachal Pradesh 1,000; in U.P. 500; and, I think, about a few thousands in Sikkim also. These numbers were, I think, given in this House on various occasions. For fuller details, I may say, there are also projects which are under examination and consideration. A handicraft centre for 250 persons in Dharmasala; settlement on land in Ladakh for 500 persons; in Siang division of the NEFA area for 1,000 to 1,500 persons; settlement in various areas of Himachal Pradesh for about 200 persons.

For settlement in Ladakh, we are thinking of reclaiming about 1,000 acres which will depend upon the available water supply, etc. All these things are being done. I would like to remind this House that this is going to be a recurring feature of our Budget. And, in the Budget Estimates, I am sure, hon. Members will have an occasion to know the actual amount estimated for the rehabilitation and resettlement of these refugees.

We were also asked whether the refugees are still coming from Tibet. Unfortunately, they are. Not in large numbers, but still they are coming. Up to 2nd November, 2,209 refugees came

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to Bhutan; but most of them are dispersed in India and at present, there are 200 Tibetan refugees in Bhutan. I am giving all these figures because the hon. Member Shri Dwivedy specifically asked for the numbers that have come from Bhutan and how they were dispersed. It is understood that 10 to 15 refugees are daily coming into India and this in spite of the precautions taken by the Chinese Government at the border.

As I pointed out, our supplementary demand for Rs. 39,89,000 also includes the expenditure incurred by the U.P. Government for the Dalai Lama. We are trying our best to reduce the administrative expenditure so that the amount allotted may be really used for the purpose for which it is allotted. On these grounds, I hope the House will vote the supplementary demands.

श्री राम कृष्ण गुप्त (महेन्द्रगढ़) : सभापति महोदय, मैं डिमान्ड नं० ३८ और डिमान्ड नं० १२० के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूं ।

डिमान्ड नं० ३८ के बारे में, जैसा कि पेज २२ पर कहा गया है, ३४.६० लाख रुपये की जरूरत है क्योंकि एक्स्प्लोरेटरी ट्यूबवेल्स का जो प्रोग्रैम है उस को चलाने के लिए एक आर्गेनाइजेशन बनाया गया है । उस के लिए रुपये की जरूरत पड़ेगी । इस विषय में मैं सिर्फ इतना ही कहना चाहता हूं कि हमारी कोशिश यह होनी चाहिए कि जहां तक इन ट्यूबवेल्स का ताल्लुक है उन का जो प्रोग्रैम बनाया जाता है और अगर ट्यूबवेल्स कामयाब हों, उन से फायदा उठाने के लिए पूरी कोशिश की जानी चाहिए । मेरा यह खयाल है कि अगर उस पानी को, जिस के बारे में खोज की जाती है, पूरे तरीके से यूटिलाइज करने का कुछ इन्तजाम साथ साथ किया जाता तो हमें और ज्यादा रुपया खर्च नहीं करना पड़ता और उस से काफी फायदा हो सकता था । मैं यह इसलिए कह रहा हूं कि बहुत सी जगहों पर ट्यूबवेल्स काफी हैं और पानी भी काफी निकदार में निकला है, लेकिन अभी तक वह बेकार जा रहा है और उसे यूटिलाइज करने की कोशिश नहीं की गई है । इस से काफी नुकसान होता है ।

दूसरी तजवीज मेरी इस बारे में यह है कि जिस कांस्टिट्यूएन्सी से मैं ताल्लुक रखता हूं वहां बारिश की बहुत कमी है और नदी और नालों के न होने के कारण से इस के सिवा कोई साधन नहीं है कि ट्यूबवेल्स के जरिये यह मालूम किया जाय कि जमीन के नीचे पानी का स्ट्रैटा कितना है । लेकिन जो भी वहां पर तजुर्बे किये जाते हैं वह सड़क के साथ साथ किये जाते हैं । यह ठीक है कि ऐसा करने से सामान वगैरह ले जाने में आसानी होती है, लेकिन यह अक्सर फेल होते हैं क्योंकि सड़कों के साथ साथ वहां पर अरावली पर्वत का सिलसिला है । पत्थर वगैरह नीचे आ जाते हैं और उस से काफी नुकसान होता है । अगर यह कारीगर इंटीरियर में जाते और जहां सॉफ्ट जमीन है वहां यह तजुर्बे किये जाते तो हमें उस से बहुत ज्यादा लाभ हो सकता था । इस बात का जिक्र मैं जरूर करना चाहता था ।

डिमान्ड नं० १२० के बारे में भी कहना मैं जरूरी समझता हूं । इस डिमान्ड का ताल्लुक उस चीज से है जो पेज ६४ पर कहा गया है यानी यह कि दूसरे देशों से अनाज इम्पोर्ट करण के लिए, फूड ग्रेन्स मंगवाने के लिए १०.७० करोड़ रु० की जरूरत पड़ेगी । यह बहुत दुःख की बात है कि हमारे देश को आजाद हुए काफी अर्सा हो गया और लगातार कोशिश के बावजूद करोड़ों रुपये हमें आये साल इस काम के लिए, फूड इम्पोर्ट करने के लिए, खर्च करने पड़ते हैं ।

इस तरफ पूरा ध्यान देने की जरूरत है । मैं ने जैसे पहले भी कई दफे कहा था कि अगर हम बावजद इसके कि बाहर से अनाज

मंगवायें, अपने देश के अन्दर उस रुपये को ज्यादा इन्टेन्सिव फार्मिंग के लिए खर्च करें और ज्यादा अनाज पैदा करने की कोशिश करें तो यह मसला काफी हद तक हल हो सकता था । अक्सर देखने में यह आता है कि जो भी प्रोग्राम बनाया जाता है वह पूरे तरीके से इम्प्लीमेंट नहीं होता जिससे जितना फायदा उस डील से होना चाहिए उतना फायदा नहीं होता । आये साल अनाज की कमी रहती है और उस कमी को पूरा करने के लिए हम बाहर से अनाज इम्पोर्ट करते हैं । मिसाल के तौर पर आप लैंड रिफार्म पालिसी को ले लीजिये । अब तक मैं यह बात कहने के लिए तैयार हूं और आप भी मेरे से एग्री करेंगे कि इतनी कोशिश के बावजूद यह मसला अभी तक हल नहीं हुआ जिसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि जो बड़े बड़े लैंडलार्ड्स हैं उन्होंने अपनी जमीन को इधर उधर कर दिया और वह टिलर्स को नहीं मिल सकी । दूसरा इसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि टेनेन्ट्स और लैंडलार्ड्स के दरमियान झगड़ा पैदा हो गया जिससे प्रोडक्शन पर पैदावार पर असर पड़ा और अनाज की कमी हो गई । इस के साथ साथ और जो भी प्रोग्राम बनाया गया है, आप किसी भी प्रोग्राम को ले लें, कोआपरेटिव फार्मिंग या फर्टिलाइजर्स को सप्लाई करने का सवाल है, या ग्रान्ट्स देने का सवाल है, जितना उन से फायदा होना चाहिए उतना फायदा नहीं होता ।'

फर्टिलाइजर्स के बारे में आज भी हाउस में यह सवाल आया था और यह कहा गया था कि फर्टिलाइजर्स जितने दिये जाते हैं वह भी काफी मिस्यूज होते हैं और मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि अगर इस को पूरे तरीके से यूटिलाइज किया जाता तो अनाज की कमी काफी पूरी हो सकती थी ।

13.22 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

कल के अखबार में भी एक बड़ी सनसनीखेज खबर थी । वह यह है :—

"big frauds in the use of fertiliser in Punjab—another scandal traced—misappropriation of Rs. 90 lakhs."

आप अंदाजा लगा सकते हैं कि फर्टिलाइजर्स जो हमें देश के अन्दर खेतीबाड़ी के लिए देते हैं उसमें से कितनी युटिलाइज की जाती है यह बड़ी सीरियस चीजें हैं । उनकी तरफ पूरा ध्यान देने की जरूरत है । इस किस्म के सवाल हमेशा इस हाउस के अन्दर आते हैं इसलिए हमें कोई न कोई ऐसी परमानेन्ट व्यवस्था बनानी चाहिए जिससे कि यह चीजें रुक जायं और कम हों । इस के बारे में मैं ने पहले भी तजवीज की थी और आज भी मैं यह महसूस करता हूं कि जो हम ग्रान्ट्स वगैरह देते हैं सबसिडी वगैरह वह ख्वाह किसी चीज के लिए भी हों उस पर सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट का पूरा कंट्रोल होना चाहिए । उन के बारे में बहुत से सवाल किये जाते हैं । स्टेट्स सबजैक्ट होने के कारण पूरा जवाब हमारे सामने नहीं आ सकता ।

इसके साथ साथ मेरी दूसरी तजवीज यह भी है कि जो हमारे हाउस की एस्टिमेट्स कमेटी और पब्लिक एकाउन्ट्स कमेटी है, उसको भी यह अधिकार होना चाहिए कि जो ग्रान्ट्स सबसिडीज के लिए हम दूसरी स्टेट्स को रुपया देते हैं, उनकी चैकिंग कर सकें, उन की देखभाल कर सकें और यह मालूम कर सकें कि आया उसको प्रापरली अच्छे ढंग से युटिलाइज किया गया है या नहीं ।

मैं डिमांड नम्बर ६४ के बारे में भी कुछ कहना चाहता हूं । डिमांड नम्बर ६४ में यह कहा गया है कि जो हमारा पाकिस्तान के साथ वाटर डिस्प्यूट है, उसके लिए जो डेलिगेशन गया हुआ है उस मसले को हल

[श्री राम कृष्ण गुप्त]

करने के लिए, उस डेलेगेशन के खर्चे के लिए ज्यादा रकम की जरूरत है । आप देखते हैं कि कितने साल से यह मसला हल नहीं हुआ । मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि इस को जल्दी हल करने की कोशिश की जायगी, क्योंकि वाटर डिस्प्यूट्स के सोल्यूशन पर पंजाब और राजस्थान के फ्यूचर का दारोमदार है । आप को यह जान कर हैरानी होगी कि हालांकि जो एग्रीमेंट हुआ था उसमें यह तय हुआ था कि आहिस्ता आहिस्ता पाकिस्तान को जो पानी दिया जाता है वह कम किया जायगा लेकिन उस में हमें पूरी कामयाबी नहीं हुई और मैं आप को एक और बात भी बतलाना चाहता हूं कि दरिया ब्यास एक ऐसा रिवर है जो हिन्दुस्तान में निकलता है और हिन्दुस्तान में खत्म हो जाता है लेकिन ९५ फीसदी उस का पानी अब तक पाकिस्तान के लिए इस्तेमाल किया जाता है । ऐसी मिसाल शायद आप को और दूसरी जगह मुश्किल से मिलेगी । ऐसे तो दरिया मिल जायेंगे जो कि कई मुल्कों को कवर करते हैं लेकिन ब्यास ही एक ऐसा दरिया है जो हिन्दुस्तान से निकलता है और हिन्दुस्तान में ही खत्म हो जाता है लेकिन उस का ९५ फीसदी पानी अब भी पाकिस्तान के लिए वहां के इलाके के लिए इस्तेमाल किया जाता है । यह बात मैं ने इस लिए कही क्योंकि ऐसा जाहिर किया गया कि यह बातचीत खत्म होने वाली है । इस बातचीत में इस बात का खास तौर पर ख्याल रक्खा जाय कि जो एग्रीमेंट हो वह एग्रीमेंट ऐसे ढंग से हो कि जो इस किस्म के दरिया हों उन पर हमारा मुकम्मिल अधिकार हो और उस पानी को जल्दी से जल्दी डाइवर्ट कर के हम पंजाब या राजस्थान के ड्राई एरिया के लिए इस्तेमाल कर सकें और इसलिए यह भी जरूरी है जैसा कि आप ने देखा कि भाखरा डैम का पानी इतना ज्यादा नहीं है कि वह दोनों पावर हाउसेज के लिए काफी हो और इसलिए ब्यास एक ऐसा दरिया है जो कि उस पानी की कमी को पूरा कर सकता है और राजस्थान की जो कैनाल बनाई जा रही है उस को भी पानी दे सकता है । मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि उस का भी पूरा ख्याल किया जायगा ।

इसके बाद डिमांड नम्बर ९१ के बारे में भी मैं कुछ कहना चाहता हूं । डिमांड नम्बर ९१ के बारे में पेज ४८ पर यह कहा गया है :—

"The Indian Airlines Corporation was set up on 1st August, 1955."

इस इंडियन ऐयर लाइंस कारपोरेशन के लिए कुछ और रुपया दिया जा रहा है क्योंकि जब से यह कम्पनी बनाई गई है उस साल से ले कर अब तक उस में लगातार नुकसान ही होता आया है । आज इस बात को देखने की पूरी जरूरत है कि आखिर इस नुकसान का क्या कारण है और उसे कैसे कम किया जा सकता है । पिछले दिनों हाउस में जो एस्टिमेट्स कमेटी की रिपोर्ट पेश की गई उसमें भी इस बात का जिक्र किया गया था और यह कहा गया था :—

"The Committee feel concerned at the mounting losses incurred by the Corporation. The Committee recommend that urgent measures should be taken in all the various directions pointed out by the Committee to stop the continuing drain of the public exchequer."

इस रिपोर्ट में यह भी तजवीज की गई थी और जहां तक मैं ने इस मामले को समझने की कोशिश की है, इस नुकसान का सब से बड़ा कारण यह है कि जब यह ऐयरलाइंस कारपोरेशन बनाई गई और जो प्राइवेट कम्पनीज थीं उनका कंट्रोल लिया गया उस वक्त इस बात का ख्याल नहीं रक्खा गया और इस बात के लिए पूरी कोशिश नहीं की

गई कि जो हमारी प्रापरटीज है जो हमारा सामान है, गुड्स है, फरनीचर है ,उस पर पूरा कंट्रोल नहीं हुआ और वह काफी से ज्यादा जिसकी कि वैल्यू बहुत ज्यादा थी, खुर्द बुर्द होगई । उस से काफी नुकसान हो गया है । दूसरा कारण यह है कि जो कम्पेन्सेशन दिया गया वह भी बहुत ज्यादा दिया गया और उस के लिए भी यह मालूम करने की कोशिश नहीं की गई पूरे तरीके से कि किस कम्पनी को कितना मुआविजा देना चाहिए । एस्टिमेट्स कमेटी ने भी इस बात की तरफ ध्यान दिलाया था और यह कहा था :—

"The Committee understand that despite the provision of sections 23 and 24 of the Air Corporation Act which were intended to prevent manipulation of assets and liabilities on the part of the companies in order to obtain higher compensation, those companies did resort to a few transactions of a questionable nature and the Corporation had to pay compensation."

मेरे कहने का मतलब यह था कि एक तरफ तो जहां तक गवर्नमेंट का सवाल था, गवर्नमेंट को प्रापर्टी ट्रांसफर करने का सवाल था उसमें गवर्नमेंट नाकामयाब रही कि उनसे मुकम्मल तौर पर तमाम प्रापर्टी हासिल कर सकती । उधर दूसरी तरफ उन्होंने जो कम्पेन्सेशन देना था, उन्होंने अपनी होशियारी से काफी से ज्यादा कम्पेनसेशन गवर्नमेंट से वसूल कर लिया । तो इन तमाम बातों की तरफ हमें पूरा ध्यान देना चाहिए, और यह कोशिश करनी चाहिए कि जो पब्लिक एक्सचेकर का रुपया है उसका इस तरह से चन्द आफिसरों की लापरवाही से जो मिसयूज हो रहा है उसको रोका जाए, और जो इसके लिए जिम्मेवार हैं उनको मालूम किया जाए, क्योंकि जब भी कोई सवाल आता है तो उसका जवाब यह मिलता है कि इसकी लाएबलिटी या रेस्पांसिबिलिटी मुकर्रर नहीं की गयी, और जब तक ऐसा नहीं किया जाएगा यह चीजें बन्द नहीं हो सकतीं । इसलिए मैं यह बात कहना चाहता था ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Vittal Rao.

Several Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no time now for more hon. Members to speak.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The time allotted for this may be extended by an hour.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That cannot be done now.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: At the Business Advisory Committee we are always told that one hour is left for the discretion of the Chair and that we may ask for an extension.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Chair has been exercising that discretion, surely in some cases, but there are some cases where it becomes difficult. Shri Vittal Rao has to be very brief.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I wanted to say a few words under Demand No. 79 regarding scientific research and cultural affairs. I do not know who will reply on behalf of the Government because I find that the Minister in charge is absent.

An Hon. Member: The Deputy-Finance Minister is there.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: In the third Five Year Plan we are going to embark upon a very rapid industrialisation of our country and the industrialisation of our country depends largely on the way we carry out certain researches in the industrial field and also in the scientific field. In this respect, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has to do a good deal of work and I hope some very effective steps will be taken to increase the research activities in our country.

[Shri T. B. Vittal Rao]

Further, whatever research has been done, the progress, though encouraging, is not sufficient, compared to the advanced industrial countries in the world.

I may here point out one instance where the research activities are being carried on at the Fuel Research Institute regarding coal. Our country, it is said, is having a short supply of metallurgical coal. Our deposits of metallurgical coal are rapidly dwindling or are being exhausted. In this connection, we should see how best we can utilise the various deposits of inferior as well as metallurgical coal and how quickly and economically we could utilise them. For instance, some experiments have been carried on with regard to the deposits of metallurgical coal in Assam. There are, I believe, very huge deposits of metallurgical coal in Assam, but the only difficulty in utilising all this coal for metallurgical purposes is the high sulphur content. Nearly seven per cent. of sulphur content has been estimated. But some experiments which have been carried out in the Fuel Research Institute have gone to show that the sulphur could be removed to the extent of 70 to 75 per cent. by the blowing of hydrogen and so forth. All the same, it is said by the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel that even after such treatment this coal cannot be utilised for metallurgical purposes. Therefore, there is urgent need to carry on further research in the Fuel Research Institute in regard to the coal obtainable in Assam. I believe that there are nearly two million tons of deposits in Assam which can be easily exploited.

Now, I come to the demand under civil aviation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: From the coal pits, he is flying high!

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): From coal to the spirits!

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: One of the reasons why these losses have been incurred is this. At the time of taking over, the Government was not vigilant in recovering the leave allowances from the compensation that was paid to the various air companies. This thing was also pointed out by the Estimates Committee who said that in future whenever any undertaking in the private sector was taken over by the Government they should be careful in recovering all the allowances that were due. Secondly, the timings of the Indian Airlines Corporation for the flights from Madras to Delhi are very inconvenient. There have been several representations made to the Minister, both by the industrialists and by other people, that the timing should be changed and that the original timing should be restored. The original timing was: departure from Madras was at 7 A.M. and arrival at Delhi was between 2 and 3 P.M. The present timing is, the planes leave Madras at 11 A.M. and reach here at about four or five in the evening or even at six due to some mechanical defect or any other cause. There is, therefore, a very urgent necessity to see that the timing of the viscount services of the Indian Airlines Corporation between Madras and Delhi is restored to the original timing, that is, they should leave Madras at 7 A.M. for Delhi, and at this end also—Delhi—they should leave at 7 A.M. for Madras. The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation is present here and I would earnestly request him also to see as to whether Hyderabad could be developed and used for night flying.

Now, I come to the last point.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He must finish it now.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I shall finish as quickly as possible. I refer to Demand No. 130 in regard to the National Coal Development Corporation. Even today, we have not got the third annual report of this Corporation. This annual report is over-due. I believe the board of directors considered the report at their last meeting which was held in January. I do not know why the report has not been

finalised and laid on the Table of the House.

With regard to the targets in the public sector, Shri Morarka was saying that the public sector is lagging behind. The public sector as a whole is not lagging behind, but only the collieries in the National Coal Development Corporation are lagging behind with regard to the achievement of the targets. In the other public sector collieries such as Singareni, etc., they have achieved their targets and indeed a little more than the targets and we hope that the targets laid for the other collieries in the public sector will be reached very soon. But I am very doubtful about the National Coal Development Corporation reaching its target of 12 million tons set up in the second Plan period.

We were told that the total output in the N.C.D.C. at the end of 1959 was likely to be very nearly six million tons. Now, under this particular sector, we have to raise 12 million tons The other day the Minister was absent and his Parliamentary Secretary replied that even though the targets were moderate, since the target to be achieved for 1959 was kept at six to eight million tons—what we achieved was only 6·5 million tons. At this rate, I am very doubtful whether the target fixed could be achieved. We have been sounding a note of caution year after year that unless some effective measures were taken, the targets would not be achieved. Even in 1957, the Minister said that the N.C.D.C. was well set to achieve these targets. Then, during the discussions in 1959, he said that there was a reasonable prospect of the targets being fulfilled. I am doubtful whether we can achieve these targets, though in one of the coal fields —in Kurasia—the mining has progressed considerably and there is every possibility of stepping up the production.

Coming to Korba coal fields, only today I read that the project report has been submitted by the Soviet experts. I hope the Government will take quick decisions on that and go ahead with the work.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member must not look at his notes now; he should look towards me!

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I shall finish Sir. Regarding the metallurgical coal and the washery at Kargali, I understand that the full-rated capacity of this plant is 550 tons per hour and that it has not been reached. Not only that. The figure given the other day by the Parliamentary Secretary was only for one shift. It is very necessary that the second shift also should be taken and at least washing should be done at the rate of 2 million tons per year.

Then, there is the threatened closure of the Jharia collieries. All the previous years, it was running at a loss and only last year, it has made a profit. So, I would request the hon. Minister to see that those mines are not closed, because whatever little coal we got from there, is of a very high quality.

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): Sir, there are two or three matters about which a clarification is due from me. One is about the steel equalisation fund.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: On which demand is the hon. Minister speaking?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Steel equalisation fund comes only in one demand —Demand No. 84.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: May I rise on a point of order, so that the hon. Minister will reply to that also? My submission is Demand No. 84 is out of order. On page 46, it has been said that,—

> "The transactions relating to the Iron and Steel Equalisation Fund are routed through the Consolidated Fund of India as follows:"

and then the procedure has been given. My point of order is that Demand No. 84 is out of order by reason of the following facts:

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

First, the difference between the statutory price and the retention price of steel which goes to constitute the Iron and Steel Equalisation Fund is not "revenue received by Government" within the meaning of article 266. I shall amplify it later. Secondly, the routing of the transactions relating to the Steel Equalisation Fund through the Consolidated Fund of India is irregular procedure. Thirdly, the difference between the statutory price and the retention price recovered from the indigenous producers of iron and steel constitutes compulsory acquisition of property, without compensation, within the meaning of article 31, and neither the Government nor Parliament has any right to constitute such a fund.

I shall briefly amplify what I have submitted. The purposes of the iron and steel equalisation fund are (i) subsidising imported iron and steel by paying the difference in price between imported and indigenous steel, (ii) granting repayable advance to producers, and (iii) fixing uniform prices of sale for iron and steel at all places.

The prices are fixed under the Iron and Steel Control Order of 1956. This order is purported to be made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. My first point is, the retention price is that part of the statutory price which the producer is entitled to keep to cover his production expenses and other things. Anything beyond that, Government takes over and passes it into a fund called the Steel Equalisation Fund. Assuming that the retention price for manufacturing indigenous steel is, say, Rs. 400, Government puts Rs. 200 on that and takes away that Rs. 200; the consumer gets steel at Rs. 600. Government is imposing so much of taxation, you may call it without the authority of the House; or, Government is taking away the property of the indigenous producer as represented by the difference of Rs. 200, without paying him compensation.

So, the first point is that the difference between the statutory price and the retention price of steel, which goes to constitute the steel equalisation fund, is not revenue received by Government. By no stretch of imagination, the difference which you get from the indigenous producer can be the revenue of the Government; whatever else you may choose to call it, it is not a tax imposed by Parliament; it is not any cess or levy authorised by Parliament. All that the Government says to the indigenous producer is, "Sell steel to the consumer at Rs. 600 a ton; you take your cost of production which is Rs. 400 and hand over Rs. 200 for the equalisation fund". Why should the indigenous producer who sells it at Rs. 600 part with his property to the extent of Rs. 200, so that someone else, the manufacturer in England or Belgium or any country from which you import steel benefits? The price of steel imported from England or Belgium is much higher than what is produced here. So, the indigenous producer is made to subsidise the foreign manufacturer. That is the meaning of the equalisation fund.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not that he is required to subsidise; the foreign manufacturer does not get it.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Government has no right to take away Rs. 200. I say, therefore, that the difference between the statutory price and the retention price, which goes to constitute the Iron and Steel Equalisation Fund is not revenue received by Government within the meaning of article 266 which says:

> "(1) Subject to the provisions of article 267 and to the provisions of this Chapter. . . etc. all revenues received by the Government of India—

this obviously is not revenue received by Government—

> ". . . all loans received raised by that Government by the issue of treasury bills, loans or ways and means advances. . . . etc.

shall form one consolidated fund to be entitled the Consolidated Fund of India."

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): It comes under 'etc.'

Shri Naushir Bharucha: There can be no 'etc.' in a statute; I am not reading it fully and so I am saying 'etc'. So, that Rs. 200 does not represent revenue of the Government. So, Government has no right to put this amount into the Consolidated Fund. On page 46, it is said:

> "The transactions relating to the Iron and Steel Equalisation Fund are routed through the Consolidated Fund of India as follows:"

In the first place, it is wrong to route it through the Consolidated Fund of India. Then it says—mind you it is called 'surcharge and miscellaneous receipts':

> "The surcharge and miscellaneous receipts recoverable under the Iron and Steel Control Order, 1956, . . ."

That order is promulgated under the Essential Commodities Act—

> ". . . are first credited to the Consolidated Fund of India as revenue receipts."

I say: they are not revenue receipts; they cannot be revenue receipts. Therefore, the procedure is irregular and the demand is out of order on that score.

Secondly, the very constitution of the Steel Equalisation Fund is nothing more than an unjust and illegal acquisition of these Rs. 200 per ton. Who has sanctioned that? This House has not sanctioned it. Who has passed the law saying that Rs. 200 per ton, which is the difference between the statutory price and the retention price, should go to the Equalisation Fund? This House has not said that. And no Government order can substitute what can be a Bill of this House. Even this House cannot pass a law like this, because article 31 says:

> "No person shall be deprived of his property save by authority of law."

I say that the indigenous steel producer is deprived of Rs. 200 per ton without the authority of law. The article further says:

> "No property shall be compulsorily acquired. . . ."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But this was not his property. The hon. Member has just now been arguing that his price is Rs. 400 per ton.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: That is his cost of production.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The cost of production and some other charges are included. Otherwise, he might have sold it at Rs. 400 per ton to the consumer. Now he is required to charge Rs. 600 per ton. But how does it become his property.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: It becomes his property under the contract of sale. If I buy ten tons of steel from Tatas, though their cost of production comes to only Rs. 400 per ton they charge me at the rate of Rs. 600 per ton. Afterwards, the Government, after having gone into their accounts of sales transactions, takes from them Rs. 200 per ton. Therefore, it is part of their property. What they do with their property is a different matter.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He is allowed to charge that extra amount on this condition that this shall have to be paid back to the Government.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: That is so. I say that they cannot charge this extra amount. I can understand their saying that Rs. 200 per ton will be the duty; I can understand that. The Government can do that. But Government cannot do this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If it is duty then it can be done only by taxation.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: My submission is that they ask somebody, who has sold steel to a private person at the rate of Rs. 600 per ton, to hand over to them Rs. 200 per ton, it is his property which is being taken away without any compensation to him. You have stated that otherwise they would have to sell it at Rs. 400 per ton. Ask them to sell at Rs. 400 per ton. Then the consumer gets steel at a beneficial price. Why should the consumer be penalised without the authority of Parliament? Now you are asking the indigenous producers to charge the consumers something extra, and to make over that money to the Government when the Parliament has not sanctioned that. The consumer is being penalised, because he has to pay Rs. 600 per ton, instead of Rs. 400 per ton. If the Equalisation Fund is not there, it would be Rs. 400 per ton. So, the consumer has to pay this additional amount without the authority of Parliament. The Government could get the same amount by imposing a direct tax. Let there be a direct tax —call it sales tax, if you like. But that has not been done.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: You are taking into account only one consumer. In such a case, the steel would have been supplied by the indigenous source to the consumer at Rs. 400 per ton. But that would not have been sufficient for the whole needs of the country. The other consumer, whom the Government might have supplied, would have to pay Rs. 800 per ton. So, under this arrangement, one is benefited and the other has to pay a little more. That is the purpose of the Equalisation Fund.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I am not disputing the wisdom of the Equalisation Fund. It may be a very good thing to have the Equalisation Fund. The question is: have you done it with proper authority from Parliament?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am afraid the point of order has taken too long a time.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He did not get an opportunity to speak. Therefore, he is making his observations also. I suppose now he has made out his point.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: My objection is on three grounds: firstly, it is not revenue; secondly, the procedure of routing it through the Consolidated Fund is irregular and, thirdly, the constitution of the fund is illegal and *ultra vires*.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am glad that the hon. Member was generous enough to concede that he does not doubt the wisdom of the fund. In fact, he has conceded that the object appears to be a laudable one, and, as you yourself were pleased to observe, if we try to change the present situation, we will be in the anomalous situation of half the consumers in this country getting steel at Rs. 800 per ton and the other half at Rs. 450 per ton. Not only will that situation arise, but the middle man might try to get some profit with the result that though the main producers will sell at Rs. 450 per ton the consumer will get it only at a higher price. Therefore, so far as the propriety of doing this is concerned, the hon. Member has conceded that this is a laudable objective.

He has some difficulty in accepting this for constitutional reasons, and I must concede that though I tried to listen to him with all possible care, I am afraid, I am not at all convinced by what he has said. The Steel Equalisation Fund is there for the last fourteen years or so, and all along it has been administered in this form. The object of bringing the demand in this form is actually to give the House an opportunity to approve of it. If I may submit here, even this was done only, I think, last year or so, because formerly the advice that was given was that it was not necessary to route it through the general revenues, that is, the Consolidated Fund, and that no vote of the House was necessary. But, then, later on, it was pointed out,

maybe by the same hon. Member or some other hon. Members . . .

Shri Naushir Bharucha: It was pointed out by Audit.

Sardar Swaran Singh: . . . and the Law Ministry examined that aspect with care, and their advice was, to be on the safe side, and also to afford an opportunity to the Members of the House, it will be a good thing if this were routed through the Consolidated Fund, and this is why the Ministry concerned comes to Parliament for a vote.

One point that he mentioned was that it is not revenue. If it is not revenue, it is a receipt. Then he says that the levy itself is illegal. I do not know how he says it is illegal. The price is fixed under the control order which this Parliament has not rescinded. The administration has the authority to promulgate an order, and that is placed on the Table of the House. And if that is not rescinded by any amendment or by any resolution, then that becomes the law. When the price is fixed, even the purpose is indicated in that control order. Therefore, I submit that the point of order that has been raised is not without any substance, as the wisdom of it is not doubted.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Not without substance?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Two negatives have been used—not without.

Sardar Swaran Singh: That is a slip of the tongue, and that must be rectified. I think the trend of the argument was quite clear. My friend cannot take advantage of a slip of the tongue, I suppose. I am sure, it is not his intention.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He also desires that it should be corrected.

Sardar Swaran Singh: For once I entirely agree with him. Before this hon. Member, two other hon. Members also made a reference to the Steel Equalisation Fund.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Sir, you must give your ruling on the point of order.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have heard it.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Now the hon. Minister is going on answering the other points.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why should he not go on? It is for me to decide that.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Two other hon. Members made some observations about the Steel Equalisation Fund. One was, I think, Shri Mohammed Imam. He said that by this method the price of steel that is charged from the consumer is kept at a high level. I do not want to go into the details, but the object of this is, firstly, to equalise the price so that steel might be available to all consumers at a particular price.

14 hrs.

Secondly, it has also to be remembered that steel is made available at the same price throughout the country, that is, at Jamshedpur, where we produce, at Madras in the South, at Bombay and at all places. At all railheads steel is available at a particular price. So a part of this is utilised for that purpose.

With regard to the price that should be charged to the consumer, the matter has been gone into with very great care and we have come to the conclusion that the existing price is not very high and it compares quite favourably with the price of steel anywhere in the world. Therefore there is no case for the reduction in price.

The rest is only a mechanism as to how we should do it. The legal and Constitutional advice that the Government have received point out to the complete validity of the mechanism that has been devised, namely, that of the fixation of price under the Steel Control Order and of crediting those amounts to the Steel Equalisation Fund.

[Sardar Swaran Singh]

I can imagine that in the international market, we may have to adopt a slightly different consideration. For the purposes of export either of engineering goods or of other articles that are made from steel, Government has been considering as to what should be the best method of helping the industry which might be interested in export. Some measures have already been taken and it is intended really to examine that point further so that the competitive character of our export market may not be affected.

My esteemed friend, Shri Morarka, raised some points about the arrears. The main producers pay this amount on actual production, or rather on actual sale, because that is the stage at which we charge the price and the complement that goes into the steel equalisation fund. This is a sort of a continuing liability that arises from day to day and from month to month. There were some arrears, but we took some active steps to realise those arrears. They have been cleared to a large measure. Also, the payments are made from month to month. The point which I am trying to make out is that there is a sort of a continuous account between the main producers and the administration. They produce more. They sell more. Then they are entitled to certain prices which are fixed on the recommendation of the Tariff Commission. There can be escalation clauses. It is a sort of a continuing account in which from time to time proper adjustments are made. A vigilant eye is kept to ensure that the arrears do not accumulate to such an extent as to create any great liability that might remain outstanding against the main producers. So the Ministry and the Iron and Steel Controller are fully seized of this matter and are trying to keep the outstandings at a low level.

A point was made that production has not increased anywhere and so how has this additional Rs. 9 crores come. This is the latest estimate on production. It is not really hypothetical because this is the year 1959-60 of which eleven months are practically over and only the month of March is left. On the basis of the actual production and the sale up till now and after taking into consideration the probable figure of production for the next month, that is, for the month of March, the estimate is that there will be additional Rs. 9 crores by way of accruals to this Fund. So, it is beyond any point of estimate or of conjecture or judgment. This is more or less now on actuals and it should be a point of some satisfaction to the House that this money is available for this purpose. It has actually been realised or is likely to be realised and will be available for the various purposes for which money is rather scarce. So, I thought that the hon. Members would compliment this additional accrual of Rs. 9 crores, which is as a result of additional production both in the public sector and in the private sector plants. These are really fruits of our investment taking shape. We have been spending in the public sector and the country has been spending in the private sector. Additional production is visualised. So these are really the fruits of additional production and it should be a matter of satisfaction and not a matter of criticism.

One other point was made about the NCDC production. The point, so far as the present Demand is concerned, is a limited one. But a general question has been raised and doubts have been expressed as to whether the NCDC would be able to achieve the target which was set for production during the current Plan period. I will give some precise figures at the time when the main Demand comes up. I must say that during the year 1959-60, NCDC have made significant progress and the level of production based upon the most recent figure is quite encouraging. It is true that the total targeted production may not be reached by the end of the Plan period,

but the shortfall is likely to be much less than what was feared at one stage. I think that during this last year, NCDC have done good work and have pushed up the production potential to a very large extent. It is hoped that by the end of the Plan period the level of production would be such as would be quite commensurate with the target that has been set for it which, I think, is a great achievement if we take into consideration the fact that the development of mineral production potential is a slow process. It takes a pretty long time. It is not like just spending money and you get the results. It is not like making purchases of a complicated machinery where if you spend something the thing comes here. In the case of mineral development the process is a slow one. But I must say that they have made significant progress of late.

The other point that was raised by my esteemed friend opposite was about metallurgical coal. That is a direction in which the Government have been devoting a great deal of attention. The importance of producing the requisite quantity of metallurgical coal is fully realised because otherwise our huge investment in the public sector and in the private sector in expanding our steel capacity would not yield the necessary results. An all-out effort is being directed to find new sources of metallurgical coal and also progressively to divert the present users of metallurgical coal to other kinds of coal, if they can do that because all our metallurgical coal that is mined these days is not being put to metallurgical uses. So, this diversion is constantly being tried. Apart from that, new sources are also being explored.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, in connection with the Demands made on behalf of the Ministry of Home Affairs, certain points have been raised. Some of them are untenable because here we are dealing with Supplementary Demands. Two hon. Members from Orissa suggested that the privy purses should be stopped altogether. So far as that question is concerned, it is a question of a larger import. Obligations have been placed upon the Government of India by the Constitution. Therefore so long as the Constitution is as it is, it would not be possible to abolish all the privy purses altogether.

Then it was contended that in the State of Orissa the Government had stopped certain allowances made to the relatives of the ex-rulers. So far as that question is concerned, may I point out that while it is the liability of the Central Government to pay the privy purses, it is the liability of the State Government to pay the allowances to the relatives of the ex-rulers. In this particular case, in 1957 the Government of Orissa considered the question and reduced the amount in respect of certain persons. Subsequently, they have reconsidered the matter. Therefore again may I point out that so far as the question of allowances to the relatives of the ex-rulers is concerned, that is a matter. . . .

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: When have they reconsidered it?

Shri Datar: . . . . that is a matter with which we are not concerned. So, Parliament is not concerned, the Government of India are not concerned with it.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: You know that the Chief Minister said that the Home Minister wrote him a letter requesting him to renew the allowances.

Shri Datar: There is a distinction between legal obligation and advice by way of persuasion. If informal correspondence has taken place between the Home Minister here and the Chief Minister, that cannot in any way affect the legal position. The legal position is absolutely clear namely that it is the State Government that can pay and has been paying in certain cases the allowances to the relatives of the rulers. If they can pay, naturally they and their

[Shri Datar]

legislature are also entitled to stop or reduce it.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: The legislature had no say in the matter.

Shri Datar: In this case, they had reduced the amount. Subsequently the Orissa Government considered it proper to reconsider the whole matter. My hon. friend may or may not like the particular procedure, but under the law it is entirely a matter for the Government of Orissa, and whatever they do is subject to the opinion and vote of the legislature. We are not concerned with it. Thus, you will find that both in respect of the general question of the abolition of privy purses and the reduction or stoppage of the allowances to the relatives of the ex-rulers, we are not here concerned.

Dr. M. S. Aney (Nagpur): Does not any appeal lie to the Central Government against the order of the State Government in this matter?

Shri Datar: There is no question of any appeal at all, except an appeal by way of persuasion, nothing more, and the Government of India cannot interfere in such matters. We might advise them, but ultimately, the matter has to be left severely alone to them. Therefore, these two questions are out of the purview of Parliament, much more so out of the purview of the debate on Supplementary Demands.

Certain hon. Members raised a question about the census operations. You are aware that they are to be held in March, 1961 and for that purpose Government have to make preparations. Some amount was included in the General Budget for 1959-60, but it has been found that a larger amount would be required for spending during this very year because superintendents and a hierarchy of officials have been or have to be appointed for carrying on this work in the various States, and that is the reason why some more amount has been asked for.

An hon. Member suggested that care has to be taken to see that the mother tongue is properly enumerated. Under the rules that have been made, the mother tongue has to be specifically enumerated, and mother tongue has also been defined properly in our rules. In addition to that, if the person concerned knows two other languages, they have also to be enumerated. Therefore, the hon. Member who raised this question need have no misgivings.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): What is the definition of "mother tongue"?

Shri Datar: I shall read it. "Mother tongue" has been defined for the census as the language spoken in childhood by a person's mother to the person, or mainly spoken in the household. If the mother dies in the person's infancy, the language mostly spoken in the person's home in childhood will be recorded. In the case of deafs and mutes, the language usually spoken by the mother will be recorded.

Shri Tyagi: So, this has nothing to do with the script. It is the spoken language, not the written.

Shri Datar: I do not know why my hon. friend has brought in the question of the script. Certain hon. Members fear that the mother tongue of particular persons in the various families might not be properly noted. That is the reason I pointed out that our definition is quite clear, and steps will be taken to see that the mother tongue is duly recorded.

Shri Bhakt Darshan made the suggestion that if a non-Hindi person knows Hindi, that also should be recorded. That is a question which has to be considered in all its aspects, and Government will consider if any further directions at all be issued in this connection.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: It is there.

Shri Datar: A point was raised that the Government had established what is known as the National Academy of Administration. You are aware that before this central body was appointed, there were two schools for the purpose of training the probationer either for the I.A.S. or for the Central services. The I.A.S. probationers were trained in Delhi, but it was found that as their number was large, the accommodation afforded here was not sufficient at all. The Government also considered the question whether a place like Nagpur could be considered, but it was found that accommodation available there would not be sufficient, because the number is largely increasing. For this purpose, what has been already done is to merge the Delhi I.A.S. Training School and the Staff College at Simla which carries on refresher courses after a certain period, into a central institution known as the National Academy of Administration. Further, we have also to see that these trainees receive not merely the theoretical training and professional training, but also that training which is absolutely essential when the administration of a Welfare State has to be carried on properly. For that purpose, the whole syllabus has been revised and it is considered that this central school or institute should be established at Mussoorie.

Shri Tyagi: A very wise decision.

Shri Datar: At Mussoorie we can acquire at a fair price—Rs. 4 lakhs—a very large estate called the Charleville Estate. Naturally, Government have to spend some money on expansion. That was the reason why, after considering all the circumstances, Government decided to establish this Academy merging the other two schools, and secondly chose Mussoorie for it since it has certain advantages which we could not get elsewhere.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): I rise to make very brief observations in regard to certain points that have been raised by my hon. friends Shri Tangamani, Shri Panigrahi and Shri Achaw Singh.

Shri Tangamani referred to the diversion of the by-pass on National Highway No. 17 around Madurai and complained about the delay. As he knows very well, it was three or four years back that we decided that this by-pass should be provided and in fact we made provision for it, sanctioned the necessary financial allotment and laid out an alignment. Unfortunately, however, a colony suddenly sprang up known as Somasundarapuram, and in order to see that the colony was not disturbed, they also erected a temple there. The question was taken up with the Madras Government and they found it very difficult to dislodge or displace the people who had occupied that particular place or area of alignment. Necessarily, therefore, we had to go to some other alignment which also we have selected in consultation, of course, with the State Government on whom we depend for this, and we have issued the necessary sanctions for it. The delay has not been of our making, and I believe that the work will be soon started. In regard to the points that have been made by Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi, let me tell him that so far as roads of inter-State importance or of economic importance are concerned, the State of Orissa has not suffered at all. In fact, we sanctioned as many as nine projects, estimated to cost about Rs. 77·92 lakhs. Out of that, we left only Rs.7·92 lakhs to be met by the State Government, and the balance of Rs. 70 lakhs have been offered by the Central Government for these projects.

He perhaps seemed to complain about the distribution or dispersal of these schemes in the State. In this matter, we have got to depend upon the advice that is tendered to us by the State Government, and we cannot override it unless very cogent reasons have been offered. We have got our consultative committee, and we do take good care to consult our friends and colleagues there, and any

[Shri Raj Bahadur]

suggestions that are offered to us are taken note of, and we have found that when we communicate those suggestions to the State Government concerned, they have been received sympathetically, and in many cases, even changes have been made in the priorities laid down initially. So, in case Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi has any suggestions to make in regard to any such projects which he may have in his mind, I would only request him that in future he may let us know, and we shall try to accommodate his request as best as we can.

Then, he referred—I do not know with what appropriateness in this context of the supplementary demands—to the question of some delay in the construction of the bridges on the Mahanadi and the Birupa rivers. Both these bridges will cost a sum of over a crore of rupees, and sanctions have got to be obtained for all such projects from the Finance Ministry, and the matter has got to be examined with all the thoroughness that is required. I can assure him that we hope to take a decision quickly about the matter. The matter is before the Finance Ministry, and we hope to get their reply soon.

So far as Shri L. Achaw Singh's points are concerned, I think he complained about the bad maintenance of roads. The problem of roads essentially is the problem of maintenance. We very well realise that we should build roads, but unless we maintain them properly, we lose much of what we have already achieved. Therefore, we have given full importance to this question. I can tell him that as much as Rs. 5 lakhs have been earmarked for maintenance of the National Highways in Manipur. There is only one road with which we are concerned here, and that is National Highway No. 39 from Mao to Palel and Palel to Moreh. I can tell him that so far we have not received any complaints about the bad quality of maintenance. Since he has referred to this point, I may assure him that I shall try to have it looked into. And I would be grateful if he could tell us the points on this road that he has in mind.

Lastly, he mentioned something about the lack of supervision and progress in regard to other roads. I can quote certain statistics in this connection for his benefit. The Manipur Administration had forwarded to us certain estimates costing about Rs. 190 lakhs. In physical terms, it was proposed to construct 186 miles of new roads, improve 130 miles of existing roads, complete surface painting and metalling of 64 miles, and construct three major bridges and improve 55 minor bridges. Against these projects, what has been achieved is as follows.

During the first three years of the current Plan, 102 out of 186 miles have been constructed in respect of new roads, 92·5 miles of existing roads improved out of a total of about 130 miles that had to be improved, and one bridge has been completed. In addition to this, 36½ miles of roads have been metalled and surfaced during this period. The progress is not bad, but I can assure him that we are not very much complacent about the question, and we would keep a vigilant eye on the progress to be achieved in this behalf. I can assure him that we would look into the matter further in case there is any back-log in this particular programme of work.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: What about the progress of the New Cachar Road which is about 190 miles long? What about the delay there?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I do not know whether that arises out of this Demand. I think that is a separate question.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let us proceed further, and we may perhaps come across that road also.

Shri Mohiuddin: The debate has thrown up certain points regarding the I.A.C. and the A.I.I. Shri Morarka has referred to the Boeings, one of

which arrived only the other day. Hon. Members will be pleased to learn that we shall start the Bombay-U.K. service in March, and the U.K.-U.S.A Service may start from May. That will be a great step forward in the history of Indian aviation.

Reference has been made to the Banaras sari. Shri Morarka has referred to the equipment or the dresses that will be provided to the air hostesses in the A.I.I. I am not aware whether Shri Morarka has any objection to the use of the sari by the air hostesses.

Shri Morarka: I have no objection to using saris for the air hostesses, but I think use of the Banaras sari would not enable them to function efficiently.

An Hon. Member: He wants them to wear skirts.

Shri Mohiuddin: I am sure that whatever dress is provided to them the management will take into consideration the efficiency of the person to whom it is provided. Shri Morarka unfortunately said that the I.A.C. has been making increasing losses. I am afraid that his information is not correct. I may be allowed to give some figures in this connection. (*Interruptions.*)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The sari is over, but it has left some trail behind. It is still being discussed in certain quarters. That should stop now.

Shri Mohiuddin: The I.A.C. had suffered a loss of Rs. 1·19 crores in 1955-56, and there is a steady decrease in the losses. In 1958-59, the losses were Rs. 91·18 lakhs. This, of course, includes depreciation. There is a very healthy progress in the efficiency of the I.A.C. The losses are, however, still high, namely Rs. 91 lakhs, and I am informed that in 1959-60 the losses will come down considerably. But the aim is, and should be, that every national corporation and nationalised industry should not merely make the two ends meet but should also show some profit. It was with that view that an expert committee was appointed in 1959, generally known as the Wheatcraft committee, and they have made a number of suggestions for the improvement of the working of the corporation, and I am sure that in due course the losses will come down either to a negligible figure or revenue and expenditure will balance.

Shri Morarka has also referred to the A.I.I. office at Karachi. The I.A.C. has been handling their business at Karachi as their general agent. There has been no change in that respect. The A.I.I. in addition usually maintain an office for promotion of sales. As to whether any appointment has been made in that connection, I have no knowledge, and I shall make enquiries about it. But as far as the co-ordination between the two corporations is concerned, there has been no change.

One hon. Member raised the point regarding the timing of the air service between Madras and Delhi. We have got only 10 Viscounts. Their utilisation is one of the highest in the world, that is to say, about 2,400 or 2,500 hours. It is not possible to increase the number of services or change the timings with the small fleet of 10 that we have got. If the Viscounts are to do the rounds of the various important places, they have got to start from one place and picking up passengers at those places reach their destination at the other end and then again start on another round. It has not been possible to agree to the suggestion made that the service from Madras should start in the morning and the service from Delhi to Madras should also start daily in the morning. It is a very difficult proposal, and I am afraid that for the time being perhaps it is not possible to accede to the request.

Certain points have been raised regarding compensation. The Estimates Committee has also been quoted. Government have fully examined all these points. I am not in a position to say just now about them because

[Shri Mohiuddin]

I never expected that these old cases would be brought up in the debate, but still Government are vigilant in all these matters and I assure the House that as far as compensation is concerned, every step was taken, and has been taken, to protect the interests of the taxpayers.

Shri L. Achaw Singh suggested that the subsidy should not be a continuous process and it should not be paid indefinitely. I entirely agree with him that the taxpayers' money should not be used for the purpose of subsidy except for a limited period. As I have already stated, a Committee was appointed. Suggestions for economy have been made, and with the improvements that are going on in the efficiency of the working of the Corporation, and with the introduction of new aircraft that may be coming—Fokker Friendship and others—the services will improve. Airmindedness is increasing, traffic will increase and I hope in due course the losses will be wiped out and the Corporations will work not only meeting their expenses but also making a profit.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Hissar): By what time, the subsidy will stop?

Shri Mohiuddin: That is very difficult for me to say. But as I have already stated, the loss in 1956-57 of Rs. 1·8 crores has come down in 1958-59 to Rs. 91 lakhs, and I am informed that in 1959-60, it will not be more than about Rs. 60 lakhs. So the losses are going down very rapidly.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The Minister of Communications cannot say when the subsidy would stop. That should be for the Finance Minister to say.

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): With your permission, I would like to make a few observations about one or two points concerning the Ministry of Food and Agriculture as otherwise hon. Members may think that their criticism has not been respected.

One of the points raised was about tube-wells. I think some Members at any rate were under a misunderstanding that these were irrigation tube-wells. This is not an irrigation tube-well programme. It is an exploratory tube-well programme. Unfortunately, during the time the last Budget was prepared, the programme was not framed. It could not be framed. Therefore, the need for a Supplementary Demand has arisen because we started the programme of digging tube-wells later and the expenditure has also been incurred later.

Some hon. Members also thought that the whole of the money was coming from U.S.A. and therefore there was no need for us to spend any money. No doubt, we have received substantial assistance in equipment and technicians, but there is a large portion of responsibility and expenditure which we have to incur. The Supplementary Demand really concerns that.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: May I point out that it has been written in the foot-note to the Demand:

> "....technical and financial assistance of the Government of U.S.A. for ascertaining the possibilities of sinking irrigation tube-well"?

But the Minister says that they are not meant for irrigation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Possibilities are to be explored for sinking tube-wells. That was what he said.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes. This programme is intended to find out which are the suitable areas for digging irrigation tube-wells. That programme will come later when we have ascertained the strata underground and know about the quantity of water that exists there.

Some hon. Members thought that we were confining ourselves only to a few areas and not to the whole

country. We have selected 15 areas and the results have been fairly satisfactory. The selection of these areas is not a matter of choice of any individual. It has to be based on geological data. Only in those areas where the Geological Survey of India think that there are possibilities of getting sufficient water are these tube-wells dug. Unless a sufficient quantity of water is available at a depth of about 200—500 feet, it is not economical to have a tube-well. I may say that we spend a lot of money on digging a tube-well. Therefore, we have to go by scientific data.

So far as Orissa is concerned, we are extremely lucky. We dug there 14 holes and of them, 12 are successful. As a matter of fact, we are waiting for framing a large-scale irrigation programme. As soon as we dig the wells and they are found proper, they are handed over to the State Governments. As soon as irrigation from a particular tube-well starts, the responsibility is passed on to the State Governments and we have nothing much to do about it.

The programme has been more or less ended—the programme which we had undertaken with U.S. assistance. This is exploratory work. We have so far dug 309 holes. My hon. friend, Shri L. Achaw Singh, complained that more details are not given. Actually we have even published a small pamphlet which gives a fair description of all that we did under this tube-well programme. In case he has not come across that pamphlet, I would be glad to pass on a copy to him. So this Demand has become necessary now because we could not contemplate the expenditure when the last Budget was framed.

There has been some criticism about the zones, the joining of Orissa and West Bengal into a zone. I think the House is fairly divided on this question—whether there should be State-wise zones or larger zones. There are people who wish that the farmers should get as high a price as is obtainable.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Zones do not give them price.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: If we have smaller zones, then *perforce* the prices ruling in one area are very high. On the other hand, the farmers do not get a proper price for their produce. It is my personal view that the joining of Orissa with West Bengal into one zone has been beneficial to both the States. On the one hand the Orissa farmers have got better prices, better than what they would have got, probably, if this zone was not there. I am prepared to agree that the prices ruling in both places are high; but the prices would have been still higher if this one zone had not been effected.

So far as the Food Ministry is concerned, some doubts were expressed as to the desirability of giving any advances to Orissa Government. And, my friend, Shri Dwivedy is also, I think, very much in favour of State trading. Actually, these advances were given for the sake of State trading, namely, procurement of rice in Orissa. And, I do not think, therefore, there can be any complaint about it. Excepting what we have paid by way of advances for procurement of foodgrains, every payment is by way of freight only and not for purchase of foodgrains. Of course, freight has to be paid for foodgrains which we purchased under PL 480.

There are some other points which have been raised but there is not much time to refer to them.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): We wanted to know how much foodgrains we are importing and whether we are importing the same quantity or whether the prices have gone up?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I wanted to reply to this. But I have not got the actual figures. But we give out these figures very regularly. I will supply them to my hon. friend.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, my hon. colleagues have dealt with the points raised by my hon. friends pertaining to their respective Ministries. There have also been a few general points that have been thrown out in the course of the debate as also one or two points relating to the Ministry with which I am concerned. I would like to deal with them.

Before I do that, I am grateful to the hon. Members who have participated in the debate for the illuminating discussions and also for the insight they have shown in the working of the various Ministries.

My hon. friend Shri Bhakt Darshan said that a few years ago, the then Finance Minister, Shri Deshmukh promised that the Budget as well as the Supplementary Budget papers will be published both in Hindi and English but that he does not find that the publication of the Supplementary Grants papers has been done in Hindi. Usually, he is a very vigilant member and I am surprised that he is quite ignorant of the fact that the Supplementary Grants were published in Hindi also. As a result of the arrangement arrived at between the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha Secretariats and the Finance Ministry, it was decided that instead of supplying two sets of papers, one in English and the other in Hindi to each and every member, it would be worthwhile from the point of view, perhaps, of economy....

Shri Tyagi: I wonder whether the hon. Minister is aware that the Hindi translation is in a language which is vain and pedantic and very difficult to follow (*Interruption*).

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I entirely agree with the hon. Member.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will improve as we proceed further.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I entirely agree with the hon. Member; but, unless some better language, particularly for such matters, is evolved, they will go on as they are. But efforts at simplifying and improving the language are being constantly made.

I was pointing out that as a result of the arrangement it was decided that every member would not be supplied with two sets of copies but he will give preference to what he wants. Particularly, if in addition to English, if any hon. Member wanted Hindi also he would be supplied. In this respect I may say that the Lok Sabha Bulletin of 15th February mentioned that the Supplementary Demand papers are available in Hindi also and Members who would like to have their copies in Hindi could obtain them. Obviously, Shri Bhakt Darshan has not read this bulletin and that is why he has concluded that the papers are not published in Hindi.

An Hon. Member: He reads only English.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: He has taken English and Hindi.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Anyway, this is a fact; the papers are being published in Hindi also.

Another point he made was about the Working Journalists Wage Committee meeting—why Rs. 5,000 could not be anticipated earlier? The only point is, the amount is so small that the Ministry thought that they would be able to meet it out of their savings and that is why they did not come with the Demand earlier. That is the only explanation.

Shri Tangamani made one or two points. One was about the pensions bill and another about the P. & T. Renewals and Reserve Fund. He said that there has been large increase in the pensions bill. As has been explained in the footnote to the supplementary grant, the estimates of pension payments by their very nature are not susceptible of accurate estimation in advance. Those who opt for pensions, or those who actually come in for pensions and what is the actual figure are all variable factors

which cannot be anticipated very accurately. They depend upon the number of pensions sanctioned from time to time and the claims presented and paid for during a given period. The estimates are framed on the basis of the trends of the past and present actuals and the likely pension claims to be settled. So, there are so many variable factors and it is almost difficult or impossible to anticipate it really. There are likely to be some variations. But these too vary with reference to actual requirements. Supplementary Demands to cover the additional payments during the course of the year are, therefore, unavoidable.

About the P. & T. Renewals and Reserve Fund, he objected rather to the increased contribution of Rs. 1 crore. With technological advance and the growing requirements of the P. & T., the pace of capital investment has been increasing considerably in recent years. The *ad hoc* contribution made to the Fund has, therefore, not been sufficient to meet these additional demands. It was accordingly decided that the Fund may be given an increased contribution of Rs. 1 crore. This increase, however, was agreed to mainly because of unexpected increase in the P. & T. surplus for the year 1958-59. The actual surplus for the year amounted to Rs. 6.41 crores as against the revised estimate of Rs. 5.38 crores.

Then, the hon. Member, Shri Morarka, who contributed so much to this debate and who usually speaks with insight into financial matters, referred to one or two points. One of the points was about the Steel Equalisation Fund. It has been adequately answered by the Minister for Steel. The other point was about the interest charges on our Rourkela credit from Germany. He enquired about why the payment of about Rs. 4 crores on the loans from the Federal Republic of Germany was not foreseen. It is actually Rs. 3·84 crores. As has been explained in the foothnote, the arrangement for payment is like this.

Interest is payable from the dates on which the payments are made to the suppliers in Germany from the credit fund of the German Government. He asked, while the date is known, the interest rate is known, why not these charges be known. Actually, the variable factor is when the payments are made to the suppliers, when they supply machinery and when the promissory notes—the agreements—are entered into between the two Governments. The interest charges accrue from the dates the various suppliers supply and payments are made to them. It is difficult to anticipate at the time of framing the Budget as to what would be the actual interest charges. Actually, this information was available to us after the Budget was framed last year. Therefore, the need for these Supplementary Demands. Shri Morarka and Shri Mohammed Imam referred to the general structure of the Supplementary Demands and they said that this was a large bunch of Supplementary Demands. Shri Morarka, I think, rather annoyingly or angrily asked: is it the case of loose budgeting? If you take this year's Supplementary Demands—this is the last of the third batch—the gross additional amounts for all the three batches together come to Rs. 109 crores, only 1.4 per cent. of the total gross amount budgeted, which means the full bill, both on account of revenue expenditure as well as the capital and loan requirements of the Government. It is only the revenue items that affect the revenue or the surplus. The hon. Member Shri Imam said that because we came for Supplementary Demands of such dimensions, it might lead to deficit budgeting. I may assure him that it is not that. When we come for Supplementary Demands, it is not the gross amount that matters; actually it is the net amount and the recoveries, receipts and savings are all taken into account and as has been explained in the introductory note, we have taken note of adjust-

[Shri B. R. Bhagat]

ments of the various savings and recoveries. But the exact position can only be known from the revised estimates for the year as a whole which will be presented on the 29th of February.

The charge of loose budgeting has been flung at the Government repeatedly every year and we have been replying to it because we consider it an important point. I am sure this matter will come up again in the Budget discussions and it is worthwhile repeating. From the list of the various Demands, Shri Morarka pointed out that they could have been anticipated. I explained just now the position. Similarly, the provision for an additional amount of Rs. 9 crores relating to the Steel Equalisation Fund has been explained. Wherever there is a provision, I will be able to convince the House that whatever Demands we have come forward with in these Supplementary Demands, they could not have been anticipated. There have been either additional commitments or new factors that have come in.

Shri Morarka: I do not want to interrupt the hon. Minister but I want to point out this that so far as the Steel Equalisation Fund is concerned, the amount has gone up from Rs. 16 crores to Rs. 25 crores. Is it the contention of the hon. Minister that our production has gone up by 50 per cent. more than what was anticipated?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The hon. Minister explained the position. It is not a hypothetical case; it is as a result of additional production or sales. It is not a hypothetical thing; it is actual accounting in this particular matter.

Shri Morarka: That is loose-budgeting.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: That is not loose-budgeting. The hon. Member must make additional allowances for the rapid dynamism in the economy. I think every Government has only two courses. Either we make ample allowances for the prospect and growth of additional expenditure and make a budget for a larger expenditure or we are very conservative and cut the cloth according to our requirements. In this connection, I may point out another instance. We have come with the Demand for a particular amount. The Hindustan Steel Limited actually wanted more as they said that their requirements were a little more. But we said: no. We cut it down to the barest minimum and we put down the figure at Rs. 122 crores in the beginning saying that if more was wanted, we would come for Supplementary Demands. The actual expenditure was Rs. 145 crores; it was more by Rs. 23 crores. Seven crores had been the savings and we have for Supplementary Demands for the balance of Rs. 16 crores. Thus the question is whether we should budget for a larger figure or we should keep to the most conservative figure and later on come with Supplementary Demands. Budgeting may not be accurate but it is not loose budgeting. In our Demands, we try to put the figure at the lowest and if necessary, if they increase, we come later on before the House. That is a better course to follow and I hope Shri Morarka will also agree with me. There may be certain loose ends which are there in spite of all calculations and which we cannot anticipate but certainly we are not going in for loose budgeting.

Shri Tyagi: It is only flexible.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: An objection has been taken to Demand No. 84 by Shri Naushir Bharucha through a point of order. He says that this is against law and the Constitution. If the hon. Law Minister has by now learnt something about it, he may assist me in coming to a conclusion.

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): Yes, Sir. I shall try to do so. It is actually on our advice, on the advice of our Ministry that the entire receipts in this Fund were brought within the Consolidated Fund and

placed before Parliament for sanction by way of Demands for Grants. If it were not, it would have been unnecessary for the Steel Ministry to bring it up before Parliament at all. It is only because we thought that it was a revenue receipt that the matter was brought before Parliament. Otherwise, it would have nothing to do with the Parliament. It is our considered view that this surcharge and receipt from the Fund are really in the nature of revenue receipts and should properly be brought into the Consolidated Fund of India. After all there is no definition of 'revenue', as the hon. Members are aware, in the Constitution or in any other Act and therefore, it has to be interpreted according to the well-known notions and any realisation by way of surcharge, tax or fees or levy should be revenue. It is a revenue in that sense and not anything else. I should have been quite glad if the hon. Member had pointed out what it was if it was not revenue. If it is revenue, it must be brought within the Consolidated Fund. That is my answer.

Shri Tyagi: In that case there is one more clarification needed. If it is revenue, if any surcharge or equalisation fee or other fees are revenues, they shall be subject to the control of Parliament.

Shri A. K. Sen: That is the view of the Law Ministry. Because, what is a surcharge? It is a levy. Equalisation fund is a levy and that levy brings in some revenue. To get its way into that particular fund it goes to the Consolidated Fund because it is a revenue receipt initially.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then hon. Members may argue that it is an indirect manner; for coming to Parliament for getting the sanction they should come directly. An objection may in that way be taken.

Anyhow, Shri Bharucha took that objection to this Demand as being *ultra vires;* rather he said it was against the Constitution, against the law. He has said that the surcharge and miscellaneous receipts coming under the Iron and Steel Control Order, 1956 are first credited to the Consolidated Fund of India as revenue receipts and an equivalent amount is transferred to the Equalisation Fund. He has taken two objections to that. The first was that this could not be included in revenue and he read out article 266 of the Constitution to support his point of view. Article 266(1) says as follows:

> "Subject to the provisions of article 267 and to the provisions of this Chapter with respect to the assignment of the whole or part of the net proceeds of certain taxes and duties to States, all revenues received by the Government of India, all loans raised by that Government by the issue of treasury bills, loans or ways and means advances and all monies received by that Government in repayment of loans shall....".

Shri Naushir Bharucha's contention was that this equalisation fund was recovered under the head and it could not be covered by any of the items that are contained in article 266.

15 hrs.

As we have heard from the Law Minister just now, the only item under which it can be brought, according to the Law Minister, is "revenue received". According to Shri Naushir Bharucha, revenues could not cover this equalisation fund.

His second objection was taken under article 31. He said that this was the property of the producer from whom that excess money or surcharge had been recovered and that under article 31 this results in depriving him of his property without giving him proper compensation. So, he has taken two objections. First, I shall deal with the latter objection.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I raised a third objection also. Even if it is revenue, the Iron and Steel Control Order, of 1956 would be *ultra vires*

[Shri Naushir Bhaucha.]

because it cannot be imposed by an executive order. A tax cannot be imposed by an executive order.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So far as that point is concerned, that would be too wide a question to be decided on this occasion at least. So far as the objection under article 31 is concerned, I do not agree with the hon. Member that this would be the property of the producer. The producer holds that much of amount as a trustee for the Government. The Government has authorised him to collect that also on behalf of the Government. That does not become his property. Only he collects that amount on behalf of the Government and is in fiduciary possession so far as that amount is concerned. He holds that amount because he is a trustee. He is holding that amount for the sake of the Government and he has to give it to Government. He does not claim that it is his property. Therefore, it is not depriving him of that amount. So, the question of compensation does not arise at all, and article 31 does not stand in the way.

So far as the provisions of Article 266 are concerned, I am also inclined to the same view as that of the hon. Law Minister. This word "revenue" has not been used here in the context of any specific, particular or technical meaning. It has no particular significance. The money is received by the Government and the receipts are all included in this word. Because all the sums have to go to the Consolidated Fund, this money also is first credited to the Consolidated Fund and then the equivalent amount is taken out for making up that Fund. Under these circumstances, in my view, there is not much force in the contention put forward by Shri Naushir Bharucha, and I over-rule the point of order.

Shri Tyagi: There is one point, Sir. Could a tax be levied without the sanction of the Parliament?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have already said that this is too wide a question to be decided now just when we are granting these Demands. That can be taken up separately. But at present, perhaps this is not the proper occasion to go into that question. A tax cannot be charged, generally—I can say that—without the sanction of Parliament. In the very beginning, I had said that objection could be taken that this is an indirect way for the Government to collect that money by way of a demand. I had expressed that point at the very beginning, when I started.

So far as the cut motions are concerned, I take it that I can put all the cut motions together.

Several Hon. Members: Yes, yes.

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

> "That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the order paper be granted to the President to defray the charges....

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Sir, I raise a point of order.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Unless that is raised now, it cannot be raised afterwards! Is that the point?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: That is exactly the point. The point is, the supplementary demands for grants have been wrongly presented. If we see the title page, we will find that it has been mentioned: "Supplementary Demands for Grants for Expenditure of the Central Government in 1959-60, as recommended by the President". Now, my submission is that there has not been sufficient compliance either of article 117 or 274. In other words, we do not know what the President has not recommended.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I can only say at this moment that it is too late to raise such things. That would be the only answer now. It is too late to raise such issues. He might utilise some other opportunity on some other occasion.

The question is:

"That the respective supplementary sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the third column of the order paper be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of the following demands entered in the second column thereof—

Demands Nos. 11, 18, 21, 29, 31, 32, 34, 38, 51, 53, 60, 62, 64, 67, 70, 73, 76, 79, 84, 86, 91, 93, 94, 96, 97, 111, 117, 118, 120, 125, 126, 129, 130, 131, 134."

The motion was adopted.

[*The Motions for Demands for Supplementary Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below. Ed.*]

DEMAND NO. 11—DEFENCE SERVICES, EFFECTIVE AIR FORCE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,99,78,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Defence Services, Effective-Air Force'."

DEMAND NO. 18—EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 58,12,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'External Affairs'."

DEMAND NO. 21—MINISTRY OF FINANCE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 6,20,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Ministry of Finance'."

DEMAND NO. 29—MINT

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 15,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Mint'."

DEMAND NO. 31—SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES AND PENSIONS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 34,25,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Superannuation Allowances and Pensions'."

DEMAND NO. 32—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Finace'."

DEMAND NO. 34—MISCELLANEOUS ADJUSTMENTS BETWEEN THE UNION AND STATE GOVERNMENTS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,71,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Miscellaneous

adjustments between the Union and State Governments'."

DEMAND NO. 38—AGRICULTURE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,51,02,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Agriculture'."

DEMAND NO. 51—CENSUS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 15,07,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Census'."

DEMAND NO. 53—PRIVY PURSES AND ALLOWANCES OF INDIAN RULERS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 79,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Privy Purses and Allowance of Indian Rulers'."

DEMAND NO. 60—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and expenditure under the Ministry of Home Affairs'."

DEMAND NO. 62—BROADCASTING

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 24,50,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Broadcasting'."

DEMAND NO. 64—MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 60,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

DEMAND NO. 67—MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 60,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Ministry of Labour and Employment'."

DEMAND NO. 70—MINISTRY OF LAW

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 59,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Ministry of Law'."

DEMAND NO. 73—EXPENDITURE ON DISPLACED PERSONS AND MINORITIES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,70,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities'."

DEMAND NO. 76—SURVEY OF INDIA

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 45,58,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March,

1960, in respect of 'Survey of India'."

DEMAND NO. 79—SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 34,62,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs'."

DEMAND NO. 84—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 8,89,04,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Other Expenditure under the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel'.."

DEMAND NO. 86—INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,00,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department'."

DEMAND NO. 91—AVIATION

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 5,23,81,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Aviation'."

DEMAND NO. 93—COMMUNICATIONS (INCLUDING NATIONAL HIGHWAYS)

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 28,53,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Communications (Including National Highways)'."

DEMAND NO. 94—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 15,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Other Expenditure under the Ministry of Transport and Communications'."

DEMAND NO. 96—SUPPLIES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 16,92,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Supplies'."

DEMAND NO. 97—OTHER CIVIL WORKS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,91,56,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Other Civil Works'."

DEMAND NO. 111—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 10,34,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of External Affairs'."

DEMAND NO. 117—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be

granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Finance'."

DEMAND NO. 118—LOANS AND ADVANCES BY THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 16,00,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Loans and Advances by the Central Government'."

DEMAND NO. 120—PURCHASE OF FOODGRAINS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 17,75,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Purchase of Foodgrains'."

DEMAND NO. 125—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON MULTI-PURPOSES RIVER SCHEMES

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,04,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Multi-purpose River Schemes'."

DEMAND NO. 126—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,00,74,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power'."

DEMAND NO. 129—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 34,62,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs'."

DEMAND NO. 130—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL MINES AND FUEL

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 14,21,77,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel'."

DEMAND NO. 131—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS (NOT MET FROM REVENUE)

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Posts and Telegraphs (Not met from Revenue)'."

DEMAND NO. 134—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ROADS

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 50,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Roads'."

15.07 hrs.

DOWRY PROHIBITION BILL—*contd.*

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shri A. K. Sen on the 11th February, 1960, namely:—

"That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to prohibit the giving or taking of dowry, be taken into consideration:—

'Clause 2

(1) That at page 1, at the *end* of line 9, *after* the word "given" the words "either directly or indirectly" be *inserted.*

(2) That at page 2, lines 1 to 6 be *deleted.*

Clause 4

(3) That at page 2, clause 4 be *deleted.*'"

The amendments are also under consideration along with this motion.

I suppose no hon. Member was in possession of the House the other day. Shri D. C. Sharma.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): This Bill is a strange commentary on the way in which social legislation is drafted in our country. It is a pity that our country should take such a step-motherly interest in social legislation. In the first place, the record of our country in this respect is very sad reading. If some private Members bring forward a social legislation, it is not treated with that amount of seriousness which it deserves. In the second place, whenever any social legislation is brought forward, the drafting is done in a—

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): Sir, on a point of order. A general discussion of the Bill is not in order now. The hon. Member can speak only on the amendments under consideration.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am sorry I was not attending so closely as I ought to have done. Really, only the amendments that have been made by the Rajya Sabha are now before us. If any amendments to those amendments are made here, they could be discussed. But beyond that, we cannot go and take up other aspects of the Bill.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): He mentioned his point of view only by way of an introduction.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Every Speaker has to start with a preamble, and I also started with a preamble.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But the preamble should not be too long.

Shri D. C. Sharma: I was only pointing out that this Bill was drafted very half-heartedly.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is not the stage when we are to go into the drafting of the Bill, how it was done, etc.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What I mean is this. There is one clause which has been deleted by the Rajya Sabha. That is clause 4. All kinds of arguments have been put forward for the deletion of this clause. It has been said that this will lead to harassment. Is there any law that we have passed which does not lead to harassment directly or indirectly? I think if we look at all the Acts that we have passed here, somebody will come forward and say, "This has been a source of irritation and trouble to me". So, to bring forward this kind of out-dated argument against this clause is not proper. It has also been said that it will be workable in cities where people are highly educated, but it will lead to all kinds of undesirable consequences in the villages. I do not want to draw any kind of distinction between towns and villages. I think the people of the villages are as intelligent as those in the towns, though they may not be as educated. At the same

[Shri D. C. Sharma]

time, to think that the people of the villages are more litigation-minded than the people of the towns is also not the whole truth.

Thirdly, it has been said that there are several factions in the villages and so, one faction might try to take advantage of this clause to harass a member of some other faction. That is also not true. Factions are to be found as abundantly in cities as in villages. So, all these arguments which have been put forward show a very distorted picture of our villages; they put the people of our villages in a very unfavourable light and try to show them in a way which is unwarranted by the facts of the situation. That is why I would say that this clause which was going to be a kind of insurance against any kind of misuse of the provisions of this Bill, should stand as it is.

Every Bill that we pass has three functions: preventive, punitive and deterrent. More than the first two functions, it is the deterrent function of a Bill that matters more. Nobody bothers about the preventive functions. So far as the punitive functions are concerned, our lawyers are there—may they live long and prosper—and they will try to see that nobody is punished unjustly. The deterrent functions of the Bill are useful from the social point of view and also from the educational point of view. I do not think our Bills are educative in that sense, if they are deprived of their deterrent functions. If we take away this clause, this Bill is without any teeth. It becomes anaemic and half-hearted.

Our social legislation has not been good in the way of implementation. We passed the Untouchability Offences Act and the Food Adulteration Act. How many cases have come forward under these Bills to show that they have been operating to the benefit of our people? These Bills, having social good or the good of the people as their objective, somehow are born out of indifference and they are implemented out of indifference. The only saving grace in this Bill is that we should have a deterrent clause like this. If that is also taken away, I think this Bill will lose most of its value.

It is feared that there will be some persons who will take undue advantage of this clause. I submit very respectfully and in all humility that the history of legislation all over the world is such as to justify this kind of complaint against any kind of Bill. There are the police regulations and laws relating to criminal offences. Sometimes they are taken undue advantage of by some unscrupulous persons. If that is the criterion of legislation in any country, I think most of the legislation should be thrown overboard. There is hardly any Act which has not been taken undue advantage of by some clever person. If this is going to be the rock on which this Bill is going to founder, it is absolutely an imaginary thing. This clause says that a man should be punished with imprisonment which may extend to six months or with fine extending to Rs. 10,000. I think this is the most wholesome part of the Bill and this should continue.

There is the other aspect of this clause. This is going to be an educative clause. I think every legislation that we pass has its educational aspect. But social legislation should be educational as well as punitive. People know that if they demand directly or indirectly some dowry, they will be punished. This will put the fear of God into their heart and this will make them very very circumspect. So, I would submit that this is a very useful clause and should stand as it is.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Will punishment make marriage happy?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I do not know very much about marriages, nor does my hon. friend know much about

them. His knowledge is theoretical and so is my knowledge theoretical. If our knowledge is not theoretical, it is out of date.

Therefore, I am not talking of marriages in terms of happiness, I am talking of marriages in terms of legal sanctions. Legal sanctions cannot make any marriage happy. Therefore, the question of happiness does not arise. But I should say one thing; that marriage will be happy and that marriage will lead to good results where the hands of both the parties are clean, where the hand of the party of the bridegroom is clean and where the hand of the party of the bride is clean. I think that this clause is going to result in something which will not tarnish our marriages with any kind of mercenary motives. Unfortunately, at this time, marriages are being tarnished by all kinds of commercial motives in my country and other countries. This is the most unfortunate situation through which we are passing.

People want to be married, but they want dowry, this and that. People want to be married, but they want to attach all sorts of conditions. I want marriages without commercial strings attached to them; I want marriages which are clean, holy and happy without any shadow of lucre. From that point of view, I think this clause will be very useful. So, I would submit very respectfully, without referring to what the Rajya Sabha has done—they must have done it in their wisdom, I have no doubt about it—that this Bill should stand, as it was passed originally by the Lok Sabha.

I would make an appeal to the hon. Law Minister, who is one of the ablest members of this House and of the Cabinet, we are very happy that he is here, that he should not practise the policy of open-mindedness, so far as this Bill is concerned. He was with us here when we pressed this clause, and when he went to the Rajya Sabha he was a party to the deletion of this clause. Of course, he said: I have an open mind and every member is free to vote anyway he or she likes. It is good for the Law Minister to give us this kind of opportunity and freedom to do what we like about the Bill. But I had thought, coming as he does from Bengal, and coming as I do from Punjab, both of us are very well-qualified to judge the good effects of this clause. In fact, we two are better qualified than perhaps many other members of other States. I would have thought that with his background of Bengal, and with his background of India, he would have been able to put his feet down on this and stick to the old clause. Therefore, I submit that this Bill should be retained, as it is. I hope he will now plead our cause with as much vehemence as he can, with as much eloquence as he is capable of, and with as much legal acumen of which he is the master. I am sure that now he will give up the policy of open-mindedness and he will be with us so that this Bill is passed again with this clause in it, as it was originally passed by the Lok Sabha.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I now call on Shri Easwara Iyer. Hon. Members should be brief and concise.

Shri Easwara Iyer (Trivandrum): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I shall endeavour to be as brief as possible. On the Bill, as it has now emerged from the Rajya Sabha and the amendment that has been suggested by the Law Minister, I am very sorry to state, with all respect we cannot agree with the wisdom of the House which has suggested the amendments. The hon. Law Minister has been giving a certain amount of background to support the amendment, particularly with respect to clause 4 of this Bill. He himself has travelled far beyond the ambit of clause 4 in order to sustain the amendment that has been put forward. It has been argued by the Law Minister that, so far as clause 4 is concerned it will amount to a certain harassment on the part of persons concerned, particularly when the parties to the marriage fall out.

[Shri Easwara Iyer]

A reading of clause 4 would show that

> "If any person, after the commencement of this Act, demands, directly or indirectly, from the parents or guardian of a bride or bridegroom, as the case may be, any dowry, he shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to five thousand rupees, or with both."

The Scheme of the enactment seems to be that "dowry" is defined in the first clause, subsequently the taking or giving of dowry is penalised, and clause 4 goes further and penalises the demand of dowry. Dowry by itself is not an offence. The essence of the transaction of dowry is receiving money or money's worth as consideration of marriage. And the giving or taking of it, if it is penalised, and if we leave apart the demand for dowry, then we will be in the sound position of finding out legal evidence for sustaining the giving or taking of dowry, and 101 loopholes would be found out by astute parties or astute dowry takers to ward off the evil....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Assisted by astute lawyers.

Shri Easwara Iyer: Yes, assisted by astute lawyers. When the complaint has been lodged before the magistrate's court that such and such person has taken dowry, or such and such person has given dowry, so many loopholes could be found out as to how the punishment could be escaped. I need not illustrate by example, because that should not be taken advantage of by others, but I would certainly say this: suppose a person says, after this enactment has become law, "I will take dowry only in cash, and that too privately and secretly", it is very difficult to prove that. What I am submitting for the consideration of this House is this: it is the demand for dowry which is the essence of the transaction, and that should be penalised, because it is possible to prove whether person before marriage has demanded dowry. Suppose a bridegroom or his party says "I will marry your daughter provided you give me Rs. 18,000 or Rs. 20,000". That letter is an evidence of the demand for dowry. Even if no dowry is given in pursuance of that letter, the demand itself is an offence under clause 4. In spite of the fact that the party may come forward and say "I have not received any dowry in pursuance of that letter", that letter is evidence of the fact that he has certainly demanded dowry.

Now, if we remove clause 4, what will be the effect? Suppose some letter is produced as evidence of the demand of dowry. Then the reply will be "Look here, I have demanded dowry. I wrote this letter. But this letter or oral evidence only proves the demand. Does it go to the extend of proving that I am benefited by it? You must go a step further and prove the actual taking or actual giving." I need not go into the legal technicalities, but it will be practically impossible. The result of eschewing section 4 from this Bill will be this.

With great respect for the hon. Law Minister, I am submitting that we are now entering into a bold adventure in the field of social legislation. Of course, Shri Tyagi would say that this legislation itself is most innocuous. But I would respectfully submit to this House that although it may be innocuous, it is an adventure in the field of social legislation. Of course it may not serve absolutely to eradicate the evil of dowry-taking. The social reformers' function may be there to do away with dowry-taking. But this is also a step which is an aid to eradicate this evil. The result of taking away section 4 from this legislation would be bad.

Of course, the hon. Minister would say that this is a legislation which is born out of good intentions. But the result will be that this legisla-

tion will be like a stillborn baby. This legislation would go *phut*, if I may explain it in common parlance, unless we make the giving or taking along with the demand for dowry a penal offence.

Now, let us look at section 4. The hon. Minister himself said that this will give a lever to the other persons, who have been disappointed, of match-making, where the parties have fallen out of a marriage, to harass the other party by unwanted legislation. This is an explanation, which I am surprised should come from the hon. Law Minister. If I want to harass the hon. Law Minister here nothing prevents me from filing a private complaint saying that on my way to Parliament he was about to assault me. Under the India Penal Code, I can move the District Court. Nothing prevents me from saying that he has defamed me. But it may be thrown out as a frivolous complaint by the magistrate.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Would any court believe that the hon. Law Minister could assault Shri Easwara Iyer?

Shri Tyagi: On the other hand, the opposite will be believed.

Shri Easwara Iyer: That depends on the quantum of evidence that is led in or as *resipsa loquiter*. The thing speaks for itself whether he could assault me or not.

What I was saying is the fact that a legislation, which makes a certain act or omission an offence, will be utilised as a weapon of harassment in order to justify it being taken away is an argument which cannot hold water in the modern world. It is open to anyone—there is the Child Marriage Restraint Act—whenever, suppose a marriage is performed, to rush to the court and say, "Here is a child marriage." But if I rush to the court, I must prove it. If I sue the hon. Minister for assault on a frivolous complaint, he has got his remedies against me. But the complaint will be thrown out if I cannot sustain it.

So, the fact that a demand has been made for dowry and the demand is made an offence under section 4, it will lead to harassment of the parties to a marriage is a matter which I cannot understand.

Even on a reading of this section itself, where is the scope for harassment? The hon. Law Minister cited the example of two parties agreeing to enter into a marriage alliance and subsequently the marriage alliance falling off and a subsequent marriage with some other party being performed by the desirable youngman. It may be open to the other side to harass him by filing a frivolous complaint. That is what he said. What does the section say if read in the legal way? What that section penalises is not any two persons but—

> "if any person, after the commencement of this Act, demands, directly or indirectly, from the parents or guardian of a bride or bridegroom...."

The expression used is 'bride or bridegroom'. That must be understood in its proper light. With great respect for the hon. Law Minister I may say that it is not any person. The status of bride and bridegroom must come into existence, in order that section 4 may be attracted. What is the meaning of it has not been defined in this enactment, but if we go into the common meaning of the dictionary, the bride must be a person, who sooner or later is about to be married and the status of the bride is the woman who is, at or before the marriage....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not the woman. She cannot be a woman before marriage.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Girl.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I am sorry girl. Here is a terminological inexactitude. I am only saying that the girl just before or after the marriage is known as the bride, and the bridegroom is the boy soon after or just before the marriage.

Shri Tyagi: For how long?

Shri Easwara Iyer: This is the dictionary meaning. I leave it to you to decide whether it is after cutting the wedding cake or subsequently after the honeymoon. It is for you to decide. I am only saying within a reasonable time of the marriage, just before or after, a person is known as a bride or bridegroom. I am making the position clear that any two persons cannot be called bride and bridegroom; at any rate, it is subsequent to the contract of marriage that a person attains the status of a bride or bridegroom. The bride and bridegroom relationship comes in once the contract of marriage has been fixed up, and then if the marriage takes place, they become man and wife.

The expression used is "bride or bridegroom". If a demand for dowry is made at that stage, certainly it is an offence. It is as bad as giving or taking of a bribe; but the marriage may fall through because of the inability of the bride's parents to meet the exorbitant demand made on them, and if still a person demands dowry, he must be penalised for that.

We were wanting to eradicate this evil. We know that our society is full of this evil. When a parent is faced with the situation that he has to spend beyond his means to see that his daughter is married to a desirable youngman, he does not stand on level ground with the bridegroom's father. The over-anxiety and the concern of the bride's parent will drive him to the necessity of selling the last piece of his property to see that he raises sufficient funds to see that his daughter is married somehow or other. There is a saying in Tamil in our State to the effect that if a man has five daughters, even if he is a king he will become a beggar. That is the state of society in which we are living. To say that a demand for dowry cannot be penalised, but only the giving or taking of it is without meaning, for, as a practising lawyer of experience I can say that, if clause 4 is taken away, the giving or taking of dowry cannot be proved by any evidence worth the name. This is a very serious matter. The taking away of clause 4 will render this Bill absolutely nugatory and will not bring about that amount of reform that it did contemplate, and all that the hon. Minister has said will only stay as intention and the intention will not be translated into action.

I would therefore again appeal to the House to throw out the amendment deleting clause 4. If necessary, this House and the other House might consider it in a joint session since this is a matter which involves thousands and thousands of young men and women in this country. We will have to consider the matter anxiously before we delete clause 4.

Shrimati Manjula Devi (Gopalpara): We have discussed this Bill in great detail. I would like to take only two minutes to discuss the amendments.

The Bill, as it has emerged from the Rajya Sabha, gives a confused picture of the whole problem. The amendments recommended by the Rajya Sabha are very conflicting. What they give with one hand is taken away by the other. They are very contradictory. The purpose served by deleting Explanation I in clause 2 is weakened by deleting clause 4. The intention of the Bill is to awaken the social conscience of the people in regard to the evil of the giving of dowry.

Sir, mind instigates action, and action is originated at the initial stage of demand. At the stage of demand, most of the marriages are broken. Any evil act or any harmful undertaking should be nipped in the bud at the very outset. So, this evil should be destroyed at the very stage of attempt itself.

Do we want to defeat the very intentions of this Bill? I do not think we want to defeat the very intentions of this Bill. If we delete clause 4, then we would certainly defeat the intention of the Bill. So, I would strongly recommend that clause 4

should be retained, and I would request the hon. Law Minister that he should call a joint session of both the Houses for the final passing of this Bill.

Kumari M. Vedakumari (Eluru): When the Bill was first considered in the Lok Sabha, in a way, we criticised the Bill because we thought it would be very difficult to implement the Bill in its full sense. But after the Bill has come back from the Rajya Sabha, we find that it has come back without even that sense, because they want to delete clause 4. We want to understand the mind of the Law Minister as to the purpose of deleting clause 4.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should give out her mind. Why should she try to understand the mind of the Law Minister?

Kumari M. Vedakumari: It is the Law Minister who has brought forward this Bill before the House. So, we would like to understand why the Minister has brought forward this Bill. Is it to decorate the statute-book? I only wish to express the sentiment or the opinion in the country. This Bill has been brought forward because Government wanted to make the acceptance or giving of dowry a legal offence. But without doing that, they want to delete clause 4. That is, demanding of dowry is not made a crime. Demanding is not punishable. But I want to submit that when you say that giving and taking are punishable, then it must be remembered that demanding is the very first step in the bargain for the marriage. Unless a certain gentleman or a party demands, the bargain will never start. We are encouraging the starting part of the bargain, but only at the last point we say that it is a criminal offence and that it is punishable. I am afraid society will not appreciate this kind of thing.

I want to submit that when a Bill is brought forward, there should be an element of coercion and the punishment should be deterrent, and the Bill should be brought forward before the House and after it is passed, it should be implemented in the society in its full sense. So, we, the Members of this House, request the Law Minister not to go by the opinion of the Rajya Sabha, but to understand and appreciate the stand taken by the Lok Sabha and call for a joint session of both the Houses....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Why should we request the Law Minister we have to take a decision ourselves.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: I would request the Law Minister to call for a joint session to decide this matter.

When this Bill was discussed in the Rajya Sabha, clause 4 was voted down by Rajya Sabha, but while bringing it back to the Lok Sabha again, the Law Minister said that we never discussed clause 4 here. The fact is that our House was unanimous about it. The House unanimously agreed to retain that clause in the Bill. So we never had a discussion over that clause. When the Rajya Sabha voted it down, we are having an opportunity to discuss it. We are now expressing our opinion that that clause should be retained in this Bill. If we want to give full sense to this Bill, if we want to make it a Bill with a clear sense, this clause should be retained in it.

Shri Tyagi: On the previous occasion also, I had agreed to the passing of this Bill only willy-nilly. I am in principle opposed to any such measures. I think it were better even at this stage if the Minister were pleased to withdraw the Bill altogether, because my feeling is that such reforms could better be effected by people going into the society and preaching such reforms. Our society is already too law-ridden and to pass a Bill for every little movement of society will make it difficult for people to live. But anyhow, after due discussions we had come to some compromise formula, whereby we decided that if any presents, a few clothes or so are given by the father to his daughter, they should not be deemed to be dowry

[Shri Tyagi].

within the meaning of the Act. Some clarifications were also made. This was made clear in the Explanation so that people may not be embarrassed or harassed over small, little matters. The Explanation which is now sought to be dropped reads:

> "For the removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that any presents made at the time of a marriage to either party to the marriage in the form of cash, ornaments, clothes or other articles, shall not be deemed to be dowry within the meaning of this section, unless they are made as consideration for the marriage of the said parties".

We passed the Explanation after due consideration. Our desire was to see that none of the parties was unnecessarily harassed. Any presents made—even in ordinary marriages we make certain presents—any presents made to one's own daughter should not be deemed to be a dowry, if they are willingly offered.

Now, I have no son. Where shall I take my property? Shall I give it to the Minister? Can I not give it to my daughters? I have three daughters. I must give my property to my daughters. If it is demanded, of course it is an offence. But willingly and voluntarily if I give it, why should I be prevented from doing so!

Shri Easwara Iyer: Do not give it as consideration for marriage.

Shri Tyagi: If this Explanation is taken away, the result will be like this: गए थे शादी कराने पहुंच गए जेलखाने।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has taken enough care.

Shri Tyagi: In fact all punitive clauses in the matter of marriages are unwelcome to me. Children get married. This is the best occasion in their life. Let their pleasure and happiness not be marred by any such thing. I am not in favour of any legislation in this matter. But if the House now feels, since we have reached this stage, that we should have legislation and the Bill should be passed, I insist that this explanation must be maintained. The House must insist on the Explanation remaining in the Bill.

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव (हिसार) : जनाब डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, तीन अमेंडमेंट्स दूसरे हाउस से आई हैं, उन को देख कर मुझे ज़रा ताज्जुब सा हुआ । जब इस हाउस में ओरिजिनली यह बिल आया, तो उस वक्त हमारे आनरेबल ला मिनिस्टर साहब ने निहायत वाजेह तौर पर बयान किया था कि जहां तक स्त्री धन का ताल्लुक है, स्त्री-धन देना जायज है, स्त्री-धन रखना जायज है और स्त्री-धन के बरखिलाफ़ उन्होंने एक लफ़्ज भी नहीं कहा । बल्कि जब मैंने बीच में इन्ट्रप्ट किया, तो उन्होंने फ़रमाया कि वह खुद भी स्त्री-धन के हक में हैं और इससे उसको देना मना नहीं है । मेरा ख्याल है कि उनको यह याद आ गया होगा ।

श्री अ० कु० सेन : अभी तक ऐसा ही कहता हूं ।

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : अभी तक वह ऐसा कहते हैं । यही नहीं कि अभी तक वह ऐसा कहते हैं । मैं इससे भी आगे जाता हूं । मैं आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब की ठीक तौर पर तारीफ़ करता हूं—मैं उनकी खुशामद नहीं करता हूं जब मैं यह कहता हूं कि उनको इस कद्र मारेल करेज था कि उस हाउस में जब ये सवाल उठाए गए, तो उन्होंने कहा कि कुछ ही इस की तारीफ रखो, यह नैचरल चीज है कि शादी के मौके पर बाप बेटी को दे और मेरी बेटियां हैं, मैं दूंगा । दिस इज वाट ही सैड मैं ने इस सिलसिले में सब की सब तकरीरें पढ़ी हैं । मैंने आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब का जो एटीच्यूड यहां पर देखा, उसकी बेहद तारीफ़ करता हूं कि ही हैड दी मारल करेज आफ़ सेइंग वाट ही बिलीव्ड । यहां

पर कौन लाया था इस अमेंडमेंट को ? यह किस की अमेंडमेंट है, जिस को वह खारिज कराना चाहते हैं ? हमारे डिप्टी ला मिनिस्टर साहब की, जिन्होंने खुद इस अमेंडमेंट को रखा । उस अमेंडमेंट को रखने पर झगड़ा हुआ । हमारे ला मिनिस्टर साहब ने उसको अमेंड किया । लेकिन इन दोनों मिनिस्टर साहबान के दिल में यह चीज थी, है और रहेगी कि जहां तक इस अमर का ताल्लुक है कि शादी के मौके पर लड़के या लड़की के वालदैन कुछ दे सकें, यह एक ऐसी चीज है, जो हजारों बरसों से इस देश में चली आ रही है, जो कि हर एक सोसायटी में, हर एक बिरादरी में और हर लोगों में रायज है । बीच में जब झगड़ा हुआ, तो हमारे स्पीकर साहब ने बीच में दखल दिया । जिन लोगों को वे तकरीरें याद नहीं हैं, वे प्रोसीडिंग्ज देखें । उन्होंने दखल दिया और कहा कि शादी कैसे मुमकिन है अगर आप कस्टमरी प्रैजेण्ट्स को रोकते हैं, जो शास्त्र के मुताबिक है, यानी लड़की को अच्छी तरह कपड़े ओढ़ा कर, जेवर पहना कर शादी के वक्त ब्राइड बना कर बिठाया जाये । जहां तक राज्य सभा—हमारे एल्डर हाउस—का ताल्लुक है, मैं उनकी शान के बरखिलाफ़ कुछ अर्ज करना नहीं चाहता हूं, क्योंकि मैं जानता हूं कि वहां के मैम्बर साहबान भी हमारी तरह इस बात के लिए एंक्शस हैं कि देश में ऐसे काम हों जो कि लोगों को पसन्द हों और उनके फ़ायदे के लिए हों । वे डरते हैं दफा ४ से, लेकिन मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि दफ़ा ४ को रखें या न रखें, अगर इस एक्सप्लेनेशन को आप हटा देते हैं, तो कोई शादी इस देश में नहीं होगी जिसमें हैरासमेंट नहीं होगा, अगर पुलिस चाहे, या लोग चाहें । कौनसी ऐसी शादी है, जिसमें खाना नहीं खिलाया जाता है ? इस बिल में ये अलफाज हैं—

In this Act, "dowry" means any property or valuable security given or agreed to be given.....

अगर आप बरात और नौशे को खाना खिलाते हैं इन कनसिडरेशन आफ दि मैरिज, अगर आप उनकी आव-भगत करते हैं, ठहराते हैं तो इट इज इन कनसिडरेशन आफ दि मैरिज । इस कनसिडरेशन में नहीं, जिस सैन्स में बिल इस्तैमाल किया गया है, लेकिन नाट एज कनसिडरेशन बट इन कनसिडरेशन । यह मैंने पेश्तर भी अर्ज किया है । हमारे दोस्त चाहते हैं कि शादी के वक्त खुशी हो, लेकिन अगर ये अलफाज रखे जाते हैं, तो हर मौके पर हैरासमेंट होगा, जिससे सरकार को इतना डर लगता है । अगर चालीस करोड़ लोगों के खिलाफ यह ला बगैर इस एक्सप्लेनेशन के पास किया जाता है, तो यह दुरुस्त नहीं होगा । मिनिस्टर साहब के दिमाग में यह है—हर एक मेम्बर जानता है कि उनके दिमाग में यह है कि प्रैजेन्ट दिया जाना जायज है । मैं अदब से पूछता हूं कि उनका मन्तव्य कुछ है और कर्तव्य कुछ है । वह दिमाग में तो यह रखते हैं कि शादी के मौके पर कुछ देना जायज है, लेकिन वह कहने से शरमाते हैं । मैं उन चन्द एक लोगों की मैन्टेलेटी पर हैरान हूं, जिन्होंने यहां तक राज्य सभा में कह दिया कि ला मिनिस्टर साहब मेरी जेब में हैं, मेरे काबू में हैं, मैं ने उन पर जादू कर दिया है । मुझे उन लोगों की मैन्टेलेटी पर शर्म आती है । आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब की जेब में मैं हो सकता हूं, लेकिन इतने लम्बे चौड़े मेरी जेब में कैसे हो सकते हैं ? मेरी गुजारिश है कि वहां पर जो लोग डरते हैं और इस तरह की बहस करते हैं.....

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : किसी के लिये यह न कहिये कि वह डरते हैं । यह उनकी राय होगी ।

पंडित ठाकर दास भार्गव : मैंने वहां की सब स्पीचिज पढ़ी हैं । वे कहते हैं कि हम इस के खिलाफ नहीं हैं कि शादी पर कस्टमरी गिफ्ट दिया जाय । मेरी यही शिकायत है । अगर वह कहते हैं कि प्रापर्टी का दिया और

[पंडित ठाकुरदास भार्गव]

लिया जाना नाजायज है और नहीं होना चाहिये, दुनिया में ऐसा नहीं होता है, तो हम क्यों ऐसा करें, तो मुझे कोई शिकायत नहीं होती । सब के सब ने यह बयान किया कि देना तो दुरुस्त है, लेकिन एक्सप्लेनेशन हटा देना चाहिये, इस से पता नहीं कि क्या हो जायेगा । मैं जानता हूं कि वे एक्सप्लेनेशन को क्यों हटाना चाहते हैं । यहां पर ज्वाइंट सिलेक्ट कमेटी की रिपोर्ट आई । उस में लिखा था कि दो हजार की रकम रखी जाये । उस के बारे में कहा गया कि इट इज एनकरेजमेंट आफ डावरी । हमने उस हिस्से को उड़ा दिया, ताकि कोई यह न कहे कि यह एनकरेजमेंट आफ डावरी है । हमने कहा कि राइट आफ प्रापर्टी क्या चीज है । क्या वालन्टेरी गिफ्ट भी नहीं दिया जा सकता है ? जैसा कि अभी त्यागी जी ने फरमाया, किसी के पास जायदाद है, लड़का नहीं है, तो क्या वह मिनिस्टर साहब को देगा ? इस में सच्चाई है । किसी के पास प्रापर्टी और कांस्टीच्यूशन में हम लिखते हैं कि उसका राइट आफ डिस्पोजल उसके पास है । मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इस तरह की शर्त रखना कि कोई प्रापर्टी किसी को दी या ली नहीं जा सकती है, इतना नाजायज है कि वह दुरुस्त नहीं । यह बिल्कुल कांस्टीच्यूशन के खिलाफ है । यह मैं मानने के लिये तैयार हूं कि इस में ग्रैवामैन आफ दि चार्ज इतना है कि जो लोग नाजायज तौर पर, कनसिडरेशन आफ दि मैरेज के तौर पर किसी से एक्सटार्शन करके कुछ रुपया ले लेते हैं कि मैं अपने लड़के या लड़की की शादी नहीं करूंगा, अगर मुझे इतना रुपया न मिले, तो वह रांग है, जिसको हम कनडेम करते हैं, सारा हाउस कनडेम करता है । अगर इसके बारे में जनाब पुरानी बहस को पढ़ें, तो जनाब को मालूम होगा कि इस हाउस की ओवर व्हैल्मिंगली लार्ज मैजारिटी ने इस को पास किया था । अगर इस तादाद को जनाब याद रखें, तो उस हाउस के छः मेम्बरों की मैजारिटी उस के सामने हेच है । यहां पर इतनी बड़ी भारी मैजारिटी थी, जिसका कोई ठिकाना नहीं है। अगर दोनों हाउसेज के मेम्बरों को मिलायें, तो एक्सप्लेनेशन के हक में ओवरव्हैल्मिंगली लार्ज मैजारिटी थी । मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इस एक्सप्लैनेशन को हटा देना देश के साथ बेइन्साफी होगी । मैं ला मिनिस्टर साहब के मारल स्टैंड की तारीफ करता हूं, लेकिन वह मुझे माफ फरमायेंगे, मुझे यह कहने को ताम्मुल नहीं है कि उन्होंने उस हाउस को एक्सप्लैनेशन के वरखिलाफ देख कर उस फोर्स में, जिस से कि वह हमेशा अपने विलों के लिये लड़ते हैं, जोकि उनको पसन्द होते हैं, वहां वह नहीं लड़े, बल्कि एक तरह से उन्होंने सरेंडर सा कर दिया कि जैसे इसमें भी कुछ खराबी है । लेकिन मैं क्या करूं ? यह ला मिनिस्टर साहब का अपना वलाज है । यह ठीक है कि मैंने उस पर अमेंडमेंट दी थी और मैंने जोर-शोर से हाउस को अर्ज किया था कि यह दुरुस्त है । वह ऐसा न करें कि दिल में कुछ रखें और जाहिर कुछ करें और इस तरह वह देश में एक कोहराम न मचवा दें । मेंम्बरों का कुछ नहीं बिगड़ता । यह सरकार का बिल है । अगर वह किसी गांव में जाकर कहें कि सब के सब लड़की की शादी पर सोग करने लग जायें, न किसी को मिठाई खिलायें, न ओढ़नी दें, तो सब लोग उन को क्या कहेंगे । वह देश में कोहराम मचाना चाहते हैं, सारे देश को डिस्सैटिसफ़ाइड करना चाहते हैं ? वह यहां यह पास करना चाहते हैं कि एक कौड़ी की चीज देना जुर्म हो जायगा, किसी को खाना खिलाना जुर्म होगा, कपड़े देना जुर्म होगा । मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि यह कन्ट्री के साथ फ्राड होगा कि हमारे मन में तो यह है कि जो गिफ्ट मुनासिब हो, वह देगें, यह जायज है और इस कानून में रोक दें कि किसी चीज को देना जायज नहीं है । मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि प्योर

ग्रानेस्टी डिमांड्ज कि वही चीज़ लिखें, जोकि हमारे विमाग में है, मन्तव्य और कर्तव्य एक होना चाहिये । इस एक्सप्लेनेशन को हटाना दुरुस्त नहीं है । अगर उसको हटाया जाता है, तो इस बिल की सोल को खत्म किया जाता है । वह ऐसी चीज करते हैं, जोकि अनहर्ड आफ है । आज तक किसी ने यह नहीं कहा कि शादी के मौके पर गिफ्ट मत दो। मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि इस एक्सप्लेनेशन को रखना इस के टैंटामांउंट है कि जो यहां और वहां के मेम्बर चाहते हैं, उस को डिसरिगार्ड करके उसके खिलाफ काम किया जाय । मैंने कई दिन लगाकर ये सब स्पीचिज पढ़ी हैं । मैंने एक भी स्पीच ऐसी नहीं पढ़ी, जिस में यह कहा गया हो कि कुछ भी देना जायज नहीं होगा । हमारे हाउस में भी इस एक्सप्लेनेशन को हटाने के लिये स्पीचिज हुई । हमारी बहनों और दूसरे मेम्बर साहबान ने इस का जिक्र किया और कहा कि हम इस को मानते हैं । मंगलसूत्र का जिक्र आया । हर एक चीज का जिक्र आया । हमारे स्पीकर साहब ने भी बड़े जोर-शोर से इस की ताईद की । इस को हटा देने का मतलब यह है कि सारे हाउस की मुत्तफिक राय और हमारे स्पीकर साहब की राय को मिनिस्टर साहब डिसरिगार्ड करना चाहते हैं । मैं हरगिज यह मानने के लिये तैयार नहीं हूं । हमारे ला मिनिस्टर साहब ने दस दफा यह कहा कि मैं इस के बरखिलाफ़ नहीं हूं कि हमारे देश में लड़कियों को फ़ाइनेंशियल इंडीपेंडेंस हो, मैं इस के बरखिलाफ नहीं हूं कि लड़कियों को शादी के मौके पर कुछ दिया जाय । उहोंने यहां तक कहा कि अगर इस को पास कर देंगे,तो भी मैं दूंगा । मैं इस से ज्यादा और अर्ज नहीं करना चाहता। इसलिए मैं ज्यादा वक्त नहीं लेना चाहता हूं । मैं यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि जहां तक एक्सप्लेनेशन का सवाल है, हम किसी सूरत में भी इस को हटाने के लिये तैयार नहीं हैं और डावरी की ऐसी तारीफ़ करने के लिये तैयार नहीं हैं कि कोई प्रापर्टी या पैसा डायरेक्टली या इनडायरेक्टली, किसी तरह का, किसी रिश्तेदार से, किसी तरह से, लेना देना नाजायज होगा और वह हैरासमेंट होगा । अगर पुलिस वाले न पहुंचे, तो एक आदमी शिकायत कर देगा । हर एक आदमी को शिकायत करने का हक है । अगर किसी के साथ लड़ाई हो जायगी, तो शिकायत कर दी जायगी । मैं इस एक्सप्लेनेशन को किसी भी कास्ट पर हटाने के लिये तैयार नहीं हूं, जिस को खुद ला मिनिस्टर साहब और डिप्टी ला मिनिस्टर साहब ने समर्थन किया हुआ है और जिस को सारे हाउस की ओवरव्हेल्मिगली लार्ज मैजारिटी ने पास किया हुआ है ।

श्रीमती सुभद्रा जोशी (अम्बाला) : सेक्शन ४ के बारे में आप की क्या राय है ?

16 hrs.

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : मेरी राय यह है कि हमारे ला मिनिस्टर साहब जैसेकि श्री दी० चं० शर्मा जी ने उन की सही तौर पर तारीफ की है, उन लायर्स में से हैं, जिन को बहुत तजुर्बा है हाई कोर्ट का और बड़े डिस्टिंगुइश्ड लायर्स में से हैं, उन्होंने खुद राज्य सभा में यह कहा था कि दफा ६ ऐसी दफा है जिस से उन के खयाल में फायदा पहुंचेगा । बाकी दफाओं के ऊपर उन्होंने कहा कि उन के ऊपर मैं ज्यादा डिपेंड नहीं करता कि रिफार्म होगा । दफायें ३ और ४ हैं जिन का कुछ झगड़ा हो सकता है । दफा ३ में डावरी का देना और लेना दोनों नाजायज हैं । मैं ने अर्ज किया था कि जो देता है डावरी, उस को माफ कर दिया जाय, उस के ऊपर मुकदमा न चलाया जाये । अगर डाका पड़ जाय तो पहले ही जिस के घर डाका पड़ा है उस को मुलजिम करार दे दिया जाये तो यह ठीक नहीं होगा, यह बिल्कुल गलत होगा । एक मास्टर था, उस के पास अगर कोई लड़का शिकायत ले कर जाता था तो वह पहले उसी को पीटने लग जाता

[पंडित ठाकूर दास भार्गव]

था और कहा करता था कि क्यों पिटा, तू ने उस को मारा क्यों नहीं और उस के बाद दूसरे से पूछा करता था कि क्या मामला हुआ है । इसी तरह से यहां बात है । जो देने वाला है वह मजबूर हो कर देता है, जिस की लड़की की शादी नहीं होती है, जिस की लड़की बड़ी हो गई है, बगैर रुपया दिये कुछ होता नहीं है, मजबूर हो कर अपना घर बेच कर, अपनी सारी चीजें बेच कर, जैसे एक्सटार्टिड आदमी होता है उसी तरह से वह वहां पर कुछ दे देता है, तो हम उस को भी पब्लिक इंटिरेस्ट में मुजरिम करार दें, यह कहां का इंसाफ है । इस वास्ते मैं ने अर्ज किया था कि उस को मुजरिम करार न दिया जाये । जो लेने वाला है, जो नाजायज फायदा उठाता है, वह मुजरिम है और जो देने वाला है वह तो लुटता है। लेकिन हाउस ने अपनी विजडम में दोनों को मुजरिम करार दे दिया जैसे रिश्वत के अन्दर लेने वाले और देने वाले दोनों को मुजरिम करार दे दिया गया है । यह इसलिये किया गया ताकि यह चीज हमारे देश से हट जाये । लेकिन जैसाकि आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा और हमारे ईश्वर अय्यर साहब ने उस की बड़े जोर से ताईद की कि देने वाला कभी आ कर यह नहीं कहेगा कि मेरे समधी को और मेरे दामाद को कैद कर दिया जाये, मेरी लड़की को जिस ने शायद कुछ हिस्सा लिया है, उस को कैद में भेज दो । तो इस का मतलब यह है कि गिवर मुकदमा नहीं करेगा, टेकर नहीं करेगा । तो मुकदमा कौन करेगा ? इस वास्ते मैं समझता हूं कि दफा ३ के जितने भी मुकदमात होंगे अगर वे सारे के सारे नहीं तो ९९.९ परसेंट फेल हो जायेंगे । अदालतों में कोई नहीं आयेगा । इस का मतलब यह होगा कि दफा ३ के अन्दर कनविक्शंस बहुत कम होंगे, बहुत थोड़े मुकदमे आयेंगे । हम ने पिछली बार कहा था कि कोई मशीनरी बना दो, कुछ ऐसा कर दो कि सोशल कमेटीज इस में हिस्सा लें लेकिन वह एमेंडमेंट भी मंजूर नहीं हुआ । मैं समझता हूं कि इस सारे कानून की जी जान है, सारे कानून का जो बोझ है, अगर हम कह सकते हैं कि कुछ कानून तो बना है, तो वह यही है ।

आप खुद कहते हैं कि लेने वाला और देने वाला दोनों निकल जायेंगे । ऐसी सूरत में क्या चीज है जिस के वास्ते हम ने कानून बनाया है ? जहां तक मैं समझा हूं वह है रुपये को एक्सटार्ट करना, किसी दूसरे के दिल पर यह असर डालना कि अगर रुपया नहीं दोगे तो तुम्हारी लड़की की शादी नहीं होगी । इस वास्ते The real gravamen of the charge, the real gravamen of this Bill is the demand for dowry दिया जायगा या नहीं दिया जायगा, जुर्म होगा या नहीं होगा, लेकिन अगर आप डिमांड को भी पीनल करार नहीं देते हैं, अगर यह कह देते हैं कि डिमांड करने वाले को सजा नहीं होगी, तो इस बिल का कोई फायदा नहीं है । मैं अपर हाउस की बड़ी इज्जत करता हूं । लेकिन मैं नहीं समझा कि उन मेम्बर साहिबान ने जिन में श्री पी० एन० सप्रू भी थे जिन्हों ने कि इस के खिलाफ तकरीर की, क्यों इस के साथ एग्री नहीं किया । जहां तक जुर्म का सवाल है वह होता है दिमाग से । जो चाहता है कि कुछ मिल जाये वह मुजरिम है, वह आइडियल मुजरिम है, उस का एटिट्यूड आफ माइंड ऐसा है जोकि उस को मुजरिम बना देता है, अगर वह अपनी एटेम्प्ट में सकसेसफुल हो जाता है, तो भी मुजरिम है और अगर सकसेसफुल नहीं होता है तब भी मुजरिम है क्योंकि जहां तक उसके एक्ट का ताल्लुक था वह उसने कर दिया, वह इसमें कामयाब हुआ या नहीं हुआ यह और बात है । अनसेकसेसफुल होने पर अगर आप उसको सजा नहीं देते हैं तो यह वही बात होगी कि लोगों को इजाजत हो कि वे दूसरे लोगों के घरों में जाकर चोरी करें और अगर चोरी में वे अनसकसेसफुल हों तो उनको सजा नहीं होगी ।

आपने जनाबेवाला खुद कहा था कि दफा ५११ इसमें आयद होती है या नहीं। मैंने उसके बाद जाकर इसको देखा और मैं मानता हूं कि जैसा नथवानी साहब ने कहा कि वह आयद नहीं होती है, मैं भी समझता हूं कि वह यहां आयद नहीं होगी। मैंने उस रोज अर्ज किया था कि अगर आप दफा ४ को हटा दें तो जिस हैरेसमेंट का आप नाम लेते हैं, जिस हैरेसमेंट के नाम पर आप अपील करते हैं, वह हटे या न हटे, मेरी गुजारिश यह है कि दफा ४ असल दफा है और अगर इसको हटा दिया जाए तो यह बिल ही खत्म हो जायगा। यह बिल क्यों यहां रखा गया है ? जिस गर्ज से इसको रखा गया है अगर उसको किसी हद तक पूरा करना है तो दफा ४ और एक्सप्लेनेशन दोनों रहने चाहियें। अगर आप एक्सप्लेनेशन को हटाते हैं और दफा ४ को हटाते हैं तो, जैसा मैंने पिछली बार कहा था डावरी सिस्टम खत्म हो या न हो, डावरी सिस्टम का खात्मा होना इस बिल से मुश्किल है, इस बिल की जान ही निकल जाती है और बहतर है कि इसको आप वापिस ले लें, इसको विदड्रा कर लें, इस बिल का कोई फायदा नहीं रह जाता है। ये दोनों चीजें मेरी नाकिस राय में इस बिल की जान हैं। हो सकता है कि अपर हाउस में यह अच्छी तरह से समझा न गया हो कि दफा ४ किस गर्ज से बनाई गई थी। इस हाउस में दफा ४ पर बहुत ज्यादा झगड़ा नहीं हुआ। यह इतनी आवश्यक चीज थी कि इसकी मुखालिफत नहीं हो सकती थी।

अब एक चीज डायरेक्टली और इनडायरेक्टली रह गई है। हमारे ला मिनिस्टर साहब ने बड़े वाजया तौर पर बताया है कि डायरेक्टली और इनडायरेक्टली के जो अल्फाज हैं वे बिल्कुल गलत थे क्योंकि गिफ्ट के अन्दर चाहे डायरेक्टली दे या इनडायरेक्टली दे, दोनों चीजें आती हैं। मैं उन लोगों के बारे में क्या कहूं जिनकी समझ में यह बात नहीं आई। अगर उनकी समझ में यह बात नहीं आई तो हमारे ला मिनिस्टर की समझ में यह बात आ गई है जो यह कहते हैं कि इसको हटा दें और मैं इसकी ताईद करता हूं मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से एपी करता हूं कि डायरेक्टली लिखें या न लिखें, जब तक गिफ्ट यहां पर मौजूद है, उसके माने डायरेक्टली और इनडायरेक्टली दोनों हैं। ला मिनिस्टर साहब इस हाउस के मैम्बर है और हम जानते हैं कि उनकी कद्र कितनी होनी चाहिये। जब वह कहते हैं कि इनकी कोई जरूरत नहीं है तो कोई वजह नहीं है कि उसको माना न जाए। हमारे डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब ने खुद यह एमेंडमेंट मूव की थी कि एक्सप्लेनेशन न दें तो मुश्किल हो जाएगी जिसका मतलब यह है कि हमारे ला मिनिस्टर साहब और डिप्टी ला मिनिस्टर साहब की इतनी जबर्दस्त राय थी, इतनी लीगली राइट राय थी कि हम उसको खैरबाद नहीं कह सकते थे। इस वास्ते इस एक्सप्लेनेशन को हटा दिया जाए तो इस बिल की जान ही चली जाएगी और यह किसी तरह से भी वाजिब नहीं होगा।

मैं अपर हाउस की कद्र करता हूं लेकिन मैं पूछना चाहता हूं कि इस हाउस ने क्या किया था, इस हाउस की मैजोरिटी ने क्या पास किया था जिस पर उनको एतराज था। यहां पर इसके हक में इतनी ज्यादा मैजोरिटी थी कि उसको देख करके कुछ लोग वाक आउट भी कर गए। मुझे इस पर खुशी नहीं है कि वे वाक आउट कर गए। मैं चाहता हूं कि जितने भी सोशल लैजिस्लेशन हों वे सब की राय से, सब की सम्मति से पास हों। लेकिन चूंकि यहां पर मैजोरिटी का सवाल है, इस वास्ते उस तरह से उनको पास किया जाता है। मैं मैजोरिटी की तरफ से अपील करता हूं, आनरेबल स्पीकर साहब ने जो कुछ कहा उसकी बिना पर अपील करता हूं, आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब के कंडक्ट की तरफ से अपील करता हूं, कि अगर आप सही मानों में

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ऐसे बिल को रखना चाहते हैं और चाहते हैं कि उससे देश का कुछ भला हो. . . . . .

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं माननीय सदस्य से कहना चाहता हूं कि वह स्पीकर साहब की स्पीच का बार बार इस्तैमाल न करें ।

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : जनाबेवाला, मैं खत्म कर रहा हूं और बार बार उस स्पीच का इस्तैमाल नहीं करना चाहता हूं । लेकिन क्या उन्होंने इस किस्म की स्पीच नहीं दी, क्या उन्होंने नहीं कहा कि कोई शादी नहीं. .

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अगर यहां बैठे हुए उन्होंने कुछ लफ्ज कहे तो बार बार उनके बारे में नहीं कहा जाना चाहिये ।

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : उनके जो अफ्ज थे, वे बेहद बुक्कत के हैं और मेरे लिये यह मुम्किन नहीं है कि मैं उनके उन बुक्कत के लफ्जों को छोड़ कर अपनी राय का इजहार करूं और मैं समझता हूं कि आनरेबल स्पीकर और डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब जो राय देते हैं, उनकी राय का जो मैम्बर लिहाज नहीं करता है मेरे ख्याल में उसके दिमाग में फर्क है. . . .

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : ऐसा न कहिये, किसी वक्त आपके खिलाफ भी कोई राय यहां से दी जाए तो आप क्या करेंगे ?

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : मेरे खिलाफ भी अगर राय दी जाएगी तो उसकी भी मेरे लिए उतनी ही बुक्कत होगी जितनी अब है, उस में कोई फर्क नहीं आएगा ।

मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि मैंने ला मिनिस्टर साहब की कई मामलों में मुखालिफत की है और करता रहूंगा तब तक जब तक कि मेरे डिफरेंसिस रहेंगे लेकिन इसका यह मतलब नहीं है कि मैं उनकी लियाकत की, उनकी काबलियत की, उनकी दूसरी चीजों की कद्र नहीं करता हूं । उनके लिए मेरे दिल में बहुत इज्जत है । मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि हाउस को अपने आप को स्टलटिफाई नहीं करना चाहिये । जिस हाउस ने बहस करके मैजोरिटी के साथ इसको पास किया और समझा कि यह ठीक है, वह अपनी राय इस बात से बदल दे कि दूसरे हाउस ने इसको दूसरे तरीके से पास किया है तो इसके कंसिक्वेंसिस अच्छे नहीं होंगे । मैं नहीं चाहता हूं कि हाउसिस के बीच में कोई डिफरेंसिस हों । लेकिन जब डिफरेंसिस चालीस करोड़ आदमियों पर असर डालने वाले होते हैं तो हमको उनपर संजीदगी से गौर करना होगा । कौन सा सैक्शन है जिसमें शादी नहीं होगी, कौनसा सैक्शन नहीं है जो मुकदमा नहीं कर देगा ? इस वास्ते मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि हम अपने साथ इंसाफ नहीं करेंगे, हाउस के साथ इंसाफ नहीं करेंगे अगर हमने इन तीन एमेंडमेंट्स को मान लिया । इस वास्ते मैं अपनी पूरी ताकत से इन तीनों एमेंडमेंट्स को अपोज करता हूं ।

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman (Kumbakonam): I shall straightaway state that I am for the explanation and for clause 4. Having said that, to avoid speculation, may I, with your leave, endeavour to present the picture of the Bill, as it has now evolved, as it is before us now? In clause 2, there is the addition of the words "either directly or indirectly". That implies any property or valuable security, if it is agreed to be given either directly or indirectly. We must remember that we have passed the Gift Tax Bill. People who go through the Gift Tax Bill will find that what is contemplated in that measure is exemption for provision for children, especially at the time of marriage. It appears as though we are forgetting the previous enactment where special provisions have been made with regard to provision for children at the time of marriage. The explanation, if I may summarise, relates to presents in the form of cash, ornaments, cloth or other things.

Then, the position is this. We are for the abolition of dowry. We know that it is too late in the day, if I may say so, after the Joint Committee has reported on it and a good deal of discussion has gone through, to say that the hon. Law Minister should agree to withdraw the legislation at this stage. Rightly or wrongly, there is a feeling in the country, and I subscribe to it, that the dowry is an evil which really characterises a good number of marriages in our country.

Perhaps it may not be realised that abetment may come into the picture. I want my lawyer friends to realise that conspiracies also are possible. Suppose a marriage is broken in a city, or village, or anywhere. The aggrieved side wants to bring the other people into some sort of trouble. A complaint is filed. Though it may not be very relevant to the discussion, I may say that the other day a distinguished film actor was detained in South India, for possessing liquor. Some poor officer was trying to enforce the law passed by the State on prohibition. There were a number of editorials in many newspapers that a big bungling has taken place, that tourism will be affected and so on. Just imagine the feeling of the poor officer who wanted to see that the law is enforced. Let us think for a moment what will happen if conspiracy ....

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam): What an innocent example you have given!

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: I am only referring to the consequences. You are now passing a law which will have certain penal clauses in it. What will happen is this. Suppose there is a charge of conspiracy. A present is given by some person, and the charge is that it is given by the father of the bride through that other person. Therefore, that present is a present which comes under the term "dowry". Kindly see the ramifications of it. It need not be necessary to prove the giving or taking. It is enough for one to file a complaint. If he wants to file a complaint against certain parties, stating that a present is given through some persons. That is good enough as an offence. Please consider that aspect. Abetment is an offence here. Of course, "attempt" would not come here. What will happen, especially in the villages?

Shri Easwara Iyer: A complaint without *prima facie* evidence might be rejected immediately.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: I want to assure my friend, Shri Easwara Iyer, that once a complaint is filed, the accused does not feel secure till it is finally disposed of. Till you are acquitted or discharged, you are an accused. People are dead afraid of this. The harassment aspect is there. Even important people in England do not mind at all complaints or charges against them before magistrates. They just go to the court, face the charges and get out of them if possible. They see nothing wrong about it. But in our country the very fact that a complaint has been filed and one is taken to a Police court is enough. The fact remains that this will be a tremendous weapon of harassment if the explanation goes.

To the best of my ability I have been trying to understand what Pandit Thakur Dasji was saying in Hindi. The hon. Deputy Law Minister, after a big debate, actually worked on Panditji's amendment. The whole thing was written down. Pandit Thakur Dasji was moving an amendment to by way of an explanation. That was modified and accepted. This was the result of a good deal of deliberation in this House.

Now let me go back to clause 2. What happens is this.

> "At or before or after marriage as consideration"

and not "in consideration of marriage" are the words. Now suppose a wrist watch is presented by the uncle of the girl. Some other party, who has got a grievance....

Shri Tyagi: Please do not point your finger towards me.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: I thought you had a very powerful case for your daughters for whom you have to provide.

Suppose a wrist watch is presented by the uncle of the girl or by a friend. It is stated in the complaint that it is really the bride's father who is giving it through that person as consideration of marriage. It may be that in course of time you may have a number of cases where the courts will give rulings as to what is "consideration". It may be directly consideration for marriage or as a dowry or not. All these may be matters of interpretation. Till we have the accepted interpretation, the parties will have to stand in the court as accused. There may be a conspiracy charge. The whole lot of them will be lugged in. After days and days of adjournments and the other side's filing statements, it may take six months or eight months before they are discharged or acquitted. Do you want that?

The Rajya Sabha has been pleased to add "either directly or indirectly" to make it more pointed and to make it more impressive. So, anything, either directly or indirectly, is brought in as consideration. If the explanation goes, I wonder if *Mangalsutra* would come within its purview. I have been thinking about it. In many communities, unless I am very much mistaken, the *mangalsutra* is given by other people. Aunts do it in many cases. Although that class of people have disappeared now, but in certain parts of Andhra Pradesh the Devadasi is supposed to be *nitya sumangali* and it is she who goes and ties the *mangalsutra*. What will happen? Is it dowry or not? Able friends like Shri Easwara Iyer, if he is a prosecutor—if he becomes a prosecutor, he will really succeed—he will say it is really a consideration indirectly. It is not necessary that the party should be involved here.

Shri Easwara Iyer: I will not be as irrational as that.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: The party directly need not be involved at all. It can be done through other persons. So, the widest ambit has been given.

Now if the explanation goes and if we add 'directly or indirectly' to clause 2, it will create havoc. It will lead to a lot of harassment. If a match is talked about and is put through, all is well and good. Even then I will not be surprised, because the stigma of our women being thrown away from the house or of not living with their husbands has almost vanished now, specially in big cities. That is not a big terror now. Actually, a daughter may come away from the husband and then there may be complaint. Therefore if the explanation goes, 'as consideration will be very, very wide.

Having said that, I wish, with your leave, to go to clause 4. I see no rhyme or reason as to why the Rajya Sabha should drop clause 4 at all because demanding, as has been put very ably by Shri Easwara Iyer and others, is the beginning of it. If you want to scotch the offence at the very beginning and nip it in the bul, that is the time to do it, that in, when they demand it. What is the use of taking away a clause which provides for penalty for demanding dowry and penalising only actual giving and taking? Therefore I would submit that the Explanation should be retained and clause 4 should be enacted and "either directly or indirectly" may be taken away in clause 2.

Shri Mulchand Dube (Farrukhabad): We are not able to understand the meaning of the word "consideration". The Law Minister will kindly enlighten me on this point. Clause 2 reads:

> "In this Act, "dowry" means any property or valuable security given or agreed to be given:
>
> (a) by one party to a marriage to the other party to the marriage; or

(b) by the parents of either party to a marriage or by any other person, to either party to the marriage or to any other person;

at or before or after the marriage as consideration for the marriage of the said parties..."

If "consideration" is as defined in the Indian Contracts Act, the question will be whether the Hindu marriage is a contract or a sacrament. We have passed the Hindu Marriage Act. Although that Act provides for civil marriages and contractual marriages also, sacramental marriages have not yet been prohibited. If it is a sacramental marriages, the question will be whether anything given at the time of such marriage can be deemed to be a consideration for the marriage at all. My submission is that it will not be a consideration, because the marriage of a daughter or a sister is a sacrament and it is the bounden duty of a parent or brother to help the daughter or sister. Hence there is a defect in this definition.

The same thing is there in the Explanation also. In order to bring something within the four corners of the word "consideration," there has to be a contract. If there is a contract, there has to be a proposal, there has to be an acceptance. My hon. friend is taking out clause 4 altogether which means that there should be a demand. He says the demand is not necessary. If the demand is not necessary and an acceptance of the demand is not necessary by the other side, how will it be a consideration? Therefore, I submit that the omission of clause 4 is again a mistake. If it is taken out, the whole Bill becomes infructuous.

Then I come to clause 6. If the dowry or something given at the time of marriage is void, if the contract itself is void, then the question will be whether you can ask the person who has taken that money or the property to refund it, because in the ordinary course of law, when a contract is void, the property is allowed to remain where it is.

If the demand of dowry is itself void, then there is no question of its being returned to the girl or anybody else. I think clause 6 suffers from that defect. I only wish that the hon. Minister will take all these into consideration and enlighten me as to whether I am stating the law correctly.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): May I draw your attention to the fact that a demonstration of railway workers, about 20,000 strong, is before the House wanting to make a representation to this august House? May we seek your guidance as to how that representation may be made?

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): May I know if they are prevented from coming in, or if any of their representations have been prevented from coming in, at the instance of the Chair?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. I am not at all concerned with what what is happening outside. The only authority that I have got here is to see that the proceedings here inside the House are conducted properly and that is what I am doing. I will request hon. Members not to detract my attention from the duties that are cast upon me.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: This House should become aware of the conditions of the people.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Should we adjourn the House?

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan (Coimbatore): After hearing all the speeches that have taken place on the amendments, starting with that of the Law Minister himself, what strikes me is that the word 'harassment' has become a much-abused and much-hackneyed word, because all the arguments that have been put forward by hon. Members to strengthen their point of view have all the time been using this question of a possible harassment and inevitable harassment and imaginary harassment.

[Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan.]

And in so doing, they seem to completely lose sight of the real importance of the Bill, or, perhaps to be more honest, my opinion is that in so doing, they try to cloud the issue and try to side-track the whole thing on to this question of harassment.

With regard to the question of whether the giving of property to a daughter would come under this Bill, which Shri Tyagi referred to, there is nothing on earth to prevent it; nobody on earth is going to stop him from giving his property to his daughter. The only thing is that nobody wants this property to be made a condition to the marriage on the part of the bridegroom. How he seems to understand that people do not want him to give his property to his daughter, and why he should be puzzled as to what he should do with his property, because he has no son, is something which I am sorry to say I am unable to follow at all, because there seems to be no room at all for argument on this matter, and no room for any doubt.

The only point is that the word 'harassment' should be used in the context in which it should be used, namely that this Bill, a Bill for prohibiting the giving of dowry is really to end the harassment that the women of our country have been subjected to through so many centuries, the harassment of the giving and the taking of dowry. Because of this social evil that has existed, we know what suffering has been faced by the women and by the parents of girls who have not been able to fulfil certain demands that have been made on the part of the bridegroom's families.

Therefore, with regard to this Explanation, I am completely in agreement with removing the Explanation, because that is exactly where the loophole will be provided. If there are parents who want to give gifts to their sons and to their daughters, and wish to see that they set up a home free from economic worries and so on, it can certainly be done as a voluntary gift either before the marriage or at any time after the marriage. For as long as those parents are there to give help to their children and to give gifts to their children, they will continue to do that. The whole point here is that it should not be given as consideration for marriage.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: The clause says 'after marriage' also.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: I did not interrupt the hon. Member when he was speaking. So, let him not interrupt me now.

The point is that a loophole should not be created by saying that we want to see that we do not convert weddings into funeral occasions, we love to have rejoicing at the time of marriage and so on. Nobody says that the marriage should not be conducted with all the joy and happiness that is there present on all occasions of marriage. But why is it necessary that money should be spent for people to be happy. This is something which I do not understand. It is not only by lavish expenditure such as we know—we have seen sometimes even Deputy Ministers in Delhi lavishly spending—that joy and happiness are created.

Shri Tyagi: My hon. friend sitting on my left (Dr. P. Subbarayan) has also spent lavishly.

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: May be, the hon. Member Shri Tyagi is unaware of the fact that as far as marriages in our family are concerned, they all took place in a very simple manner and in a simple way, because that was the way in which we were brought up, and that is the principle that has been upheld in our families. Since he was personal

in his remarks, I am sorry I had to give him also a personal reply.

All the arguments that have been put forward for retaining this Explanation seem to go round this one point of having to give these presents, having to give saries, jewellery etc. There is nothing to stop them from doing it before marriage or after marriage or at any other time. The main thing is that would create a loophole, because we know in the south, particularly,—and Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman himself must be aware of the fact that particularly in his community—very often a condition is made by the bridegroom's people that the bride must wear twenty sovereigns worth of necklace or gold chain, that the bride must have a pair of diamond ear-rings, that the bride must be dressed in a sari such as the Banaras tissue sari, etc. etc. It is these conditions that we do not want to give room for in a Bill which has been brought forward in order to prohibit the giving and taking of dowry. I am sure no right-thinking lawyer, no right-thinking person, no right-thinking Judge is going to hold the giving of ordinary gifts given in the natural course as a result of affection of the parents for their children as dowry in any court in our country, because I think we are advanced enough to see that this sort of justice will be upheld in the courts of this country.

Secondly, with regard to the question of demand, I am amazed how in a Bill brought forward to prohibit the giving and taking of dowry, the demand of dowry is being legalised by removing from it a clause which seeks to punish the demand for dowry. Here again, the only argument that the hon. Law Minister was able to put forward—I do not accuse him in the way others have; after all he had brought forward the amendments because the Upper House has thought it fit to pass those amendments—the only argument he could put forward was about harassment to people all over. Cases of giving and taking dowry will be very difficult to be brought before a court. It is far easier to deal with demand. It is at that stage that this evil can be checked more effectively. As my hon. friend, Shri Easwara Iyer, said, on this question of whether the dowry has been demanded or not, whether harassment is going to come out of the clause as existing and so on, we need have no fear because, though I am not a lawyer, I think such complaints cannot be taken up nor summons issued unless there is *prima facie* evidence which can be put before the court. Frivolous complaints will not be entertained by the courts. So there is nothing to fear that that will lead to harassment.

Secondly, I do not think that in our country there is a very large section of people today who have the money to carry on this kind of harassment. So why should there be this sort of fear, that there will be big harassment. This is something which beats me.

So I would urge that the House should reject this amendment coming from the Rajya Sabha asking for the deletion of clause 4, because in not doing so we will really be making this statute a dead letter even before it goes to the Statute-book. In fact, it would be a still-born statute of no value whatsoever either to the social reformers or to all right-thinking people who join hands in eradicating this evil of giving and taking dowry.

Shri Jaganatha Rao (Koraput): I think mine will be the lone voice in this House besides the Law Minister's in support of the amendments.

Firstly, the deletion of the Explanation to clause 2 does not alter the situation. The definition of 'dowry' in clause 2 is wide enough. Anything given amounts to a dowry only in case it is given as consideration for marriage. So whatever be

[Shri Jaganatha Rao.]

given, cash, jewellery or cloth, it would not amount to a dowry unless given as consideration for marriage. The Explanation was inserted only by way of clarification so that any doubts remaining may be removed. But as I see the definition, it does not create any doubt, and the Explanation is, therefore, not called for.

The other contentious matter concerns the deletion of clause 4. I feel clause 4 should not there. This measure aims at the prohibition of dowry. It is a social reform which seeks to remove this evil. What is needed today in regard to the prohibition of dowry is the removal of dowry-mindedness. Whatever be the legal measures adopted by Parliament, unless there is a social or psychological change in the minds of the people, certainly this legislation cannot be effective.

So the mere demand of dowry should not be made penal. When we legislate a social measure, a measure which seeks to effect social reform, we should not rush into the realm of penal law. The giving and taking of dowry are offences. Suppose a man knowingly or unknowingly demands dowry.

Shrimati Subhadra Joshi: How can he demand unknowingly?

Shri Jaganatha Rao: Not knowing the provisions of the law. But it is up to the person on whom the demand is made to refuse.

Secondly, I would say that the mere demand would not amount to the attempt of taking of dowry in law. An attempt is something more. It should proceed from the stage of preparation to some overt act. Supposing the person on whom the demand is made does not agree, then the attempt fails. If you look at the illustration given in section 511 of the Penal Code you will find this. One is, a person breaks open a jewel box but he finds no jewels there. The offence of attempt is there. If the jewels were there he would have taken them.

The second illustration is, a man picks another's pocket but he finds nothing there. But yet he has committed the offence of attempt.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: I am sorry to interrupt. Section 511 of the Code applies to offences under the Code.

Shri A. K. Sen: The attempt is there.

Shri Jaganatha Rao: The attempt should be something more than a mere state of mind. If the demand is made and the person refuses the demand would fall. The making of the simple demand of a dowry as an offence under this measure is not called for and when we attempt social reform we have to go rather cautiously, and we should see that psychological change is brought about.

For instance, we have the Removal of Untouchability Act. The mere passing of the measure has not removed untouchability. It takes time to nave a change of heart. So, if giving a dowry is an offence and taking a dowry is an offence, that would be sufficient. It would make people think twice before a demand is made and dowry is given. So, this clause 4 cannot be the soul or the life of the Bill.

I say caluse 6 is more important. Clause 6 says that gifts made in favour of a bride or a bridegroom out of love or affection should go to the bride or the bridegroom concerned and it should not be taken by the father or the guardian. That is the essence of the Bill. It is not intended to make the mere demand an offence. I think there is much force in the deletion of clause 4 and the deletion of the *Explanation* to clause 2 does not alter the situation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Law Minister.

Shri A. K. Sen: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir.....

श्रीमती सहोदरा बाई राय (सागर-रक्षित-अनुसूचित जातियां) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, कुछ महिलायें रह गईं।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मैं तो देखता रहा उस तरफ कि कोई महिला खड़ी हो, लेकिन कोई नहीं खड़ी हुई, तब मैंने औरों को बुलाया है।

श्री त्यागी : उनकी शादियां हो चुकी हैं।

श्रीमती सहोदरा बाई राय : वाह शादियां हो चुकी हैं तो क्या हुआ ? लड़कियां तो उनकी है।

Shri A. K. Sen: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is really a remarkable occasion when one of the hon. Members speaking from the opposite side, Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan, was addressing the House when a loving father of hers is sitting on the opposite side. She was addressing most of her arguments to him. (*Interruption*).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think she was addressing all the arguments to the Chair.

Shri A. K. Sen: She had her eyes on the father. (*Interruption*).

I would first address myself to the point raised by Shri Dube on the definition of the word 'dowry'. As he pointed out, what is pernicious is not the giving of something by the father or the mother but what is objectionable is what is given under duress or under compulsion. Or, in other words, corrupting the sacramental nature of a marriage into a commercial transaction. That is what is pernicious. And we do not want to perpetuate this particular corruption of what is a pure sacrament into what has become largely a commercial transaction. If commercial feelings are introduced then the idea of sacrament is not observed. The whole thing tends to corrupt what is regarded as sacrament; or, in other words, take something as a consideration for or as the basis of marriage, which is certainly and legally a sacrament. Therefore, though marriage is not a contract; yet the taking or giving of a dowry makes it something like a contract in the sense that dowry becomes the consideration for the transaction of marriage. That is exactly what we have designed to penalise and to prohibit. Therefore, the definition cannot be improved upon; as I have said, at least we have not been able to do so. Better definitions had not been urged uptil now and if they were urged, we would have certainly considered them with an open mind. Therefore, the question of the explanation sadly becomes very relevant and I must say frankly that the apprehensions which have been expressed by several hon. Members are not absolutely baseless because it does tend to create a feeling or possibly it may lead to harassing a few where a gift prompted by absolutely filial consideration may be challenged on the ground that the gift is not purely voluntary but has been induced by the prospect or consideration of marriage. But this is inevitable when you try to tackle an evil like the dowry system and the best safeguard is the fine judiciary we have which ascertains the facts impartially and fearlessly and without prejudice and penalises only those who are within the ambit of the law. Therefore, in the ultimate analysis, all questions of harassment and all questions of false complaints or possible dangers will have to be safeguarded against by a competent and fearless judiciary which, I am proud to say, we possess and in which we have perfect confidence. But, as I said, the explanation becomes relevant. It is for the House to agree to the Rajya Sabha's amendment or not. But as I said—I repeat it because Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava had raised this point—that even with the explanation, a gift by the father will not be penalised unless it is proved that it is vitiated by being the consideration for the marriage.....

Shri Tyagi: Does the explanation make it worse?

Shri A. K. Sen: It makes no difference. What was pointed by the Rajya Sabha and also many hon. Members here is that if you keep the explanation, you really open the eyes of all possible evaders so that they may try to disguise a transaction of dowry by putting it on the garb of a voluntary gift and so on.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: Are the voluntary gifts to be encouraged or discouraged?

Shri A. K. Sen: So far as the Central Board of Revenue are concerned, they would like very much to encourage the gifts and so far as the sons are concerned, they would not like gifts to be very liberally indulged in in favour of the daughters. It all depends on from which angle you look at the problem.

The position will be the same whether you keep the explanation or not but possibly there is one argument which could be advanced in favour of the deletion of the explanation that if you put it so boldly, possibly the wagers and law-breakers get the clue from the letters of the law written in very bold letters. That is the only argument in favour of the deletion of the explanation. Otherwise, the law remains just the same because we cannot possibly penalise a purely voluntary gift by a father to his daughter. How can we? What power have we? No legislature has the power to prevent a father from giving what he chooses to give to his daughter as a purely paternal gift. So, it will be entirely for the House to decide whether the retention of the explanation should be voted for or we should accept the deletion as passed by the Rajya Sabha.

Next is the question of clause 4. As I said, I only put forward the argument which is advanced in support of the deletion of clause 4 in the Rajya Sabha which, again, in all fairness, I must say is not without foundation, having regard to the numerous private feuds and quarrels we have in the villages. We cannot certainly close our eyes to the extremely litigous nature of many of our village factions which take the slightest advantage of the law in putting the other side into trouble. But again, as I said, I agree with most hon. Members who have opposed the retention of clause 4 that it is true that whenever you penalise social evils like this and bring into fold certain persons, those who are opposed to others would otherwise like to put their opponents into trouble by taking advantage of such social measures. But that is no argument against passing beneficial and necessary social measures. We have to strike a balance between the two on very fair considerations which must weigh with any law-making body and a responsible Parliament like ours.

The next point raised by Shri D. C. Sharma needs very little reply. He has mostly spoken against the retention of clause 4.

Then, Dr. Sushila Nayar, of course, mainly based her arguments against the retention of clause 4. I have dealt with that already. I am deeply obliged to her for paying me certain compliments about my alleged knowledge of law. I can assure her that so far as that is concerned, I have no pride whatsoever. I hope I have never expressed it and I hope I shall never do so and if I have ever given any expression of any such alleged pride, I am sincerely sorry that I should have created this feeling in the mind of any hon. Member, because any person who has something to do with law knows his own limitation. It is a limitless sea which can never be fathomed by any individual, and humility is the only hallmark of a person who is devoted to law and I hope that we all will share that cardinal principle which not only characterises the profession of law but all the noble professions including the profession of a legislator.

That is all that I want to say. As I said, the Government has thought it fit not to rely on any whip in the matter. It is a social matter and the

Parliament must vote according to its free will.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall put the question to the vote.

Shri A. K. Sen: May I suggest one thing? The amendments may be put one by one.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will do that But now the motion for consideration has to be put as a whole. The question is:

"That the following amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill to prohibit the giving or taking of dowry, be taken into consideration:—

'Clause 2

(1) That at page 1, at the *end* of line 9, *after* the word "given" the words "either directly or indirectly" be *inserted*.

(2) That at page 2, lines 1 to 6 be *deleted*.

Clause 4

(3) That at page 2, clause 4 be *deleted*.' "

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, we shall take up the amendments, one by one, as desired. First, I shall take up clause 2. I had one amendment by Shri C. K. Bhattachaya. He is not present. Is any hon. Member wishing to speak?

Shri A. K. Sen: I wanted to say that I entirely agree with respect to what Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava has said, namely, that even without the words "directly or indirectly", it will bear the same interpretation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

Clause 2

(1) That at page 1, at the *end* of line 9, *after* the word "given" the words "either directly or indirectly" be *inserted*.

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The amendment is lost. I will now put the next amendment to the vote. The question is:

(2) That at page 2, lines 1 to 6 be *deleted*.

I suppose these lines constitute the Explanation.

Those in favour will say 'Aye'.

Some Hon. Members: Aye.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Those againt will say 'No'.

Some Hon. Members: No.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is difficult for me to decide. Hon. Members should be alert and understand what it means and then they should exercise their right of vote. Rajya Sabha has recommended that this Explanation be deleted. I will again put it.

The question is:

"That at page 2, lines 1 to 6 be *deleted*."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We come to clause 4. I will put the next amendment.

The question is:

"That at page 2, clause 4 be *deleted*."

The motion was negatived.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are some formal amendments by the Government.

Shri A. K. Sen: They are all consequential.

Amendments made:

Page 1, line 3,—

For "1959" *substitute* "1960". (3).

Page 1, line 1,—

For "Tenth Year" *substitute* "Eleventh Year". (2).

[*Shri A. K. Sen*]

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These are the only amendments. Shri A. K. Sen?

An Hon. Member: There should be a joint session.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Perhaps all the consequences laid down in the Constitution will follow.

An Hon. Member: They can agree not to press.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have not to declare what should happen. I cannot announce when the joint session will meet. The House will now take up the next item.

16.53 hrs.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS (CONTROL) AMENDMENT BILL

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): I beg to move:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Sir, as hon. Members will have noticed from the Statement of Objects and Reasons, the Bill aims at extending the life of the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947, by another six years, i.e., upto 31st March, 1966. The need for control of the foreign trade of the country cannot be over-emphasised and such a need is greater today than ever before and is likely to continue for many years. While the export trade is liberalised to the maximum extent and control is exercised only in respect of a few commodities, particularly in short supply in the country, the import trade has to be closely controlled to put the limited foreign exchange to the maximum national advantage.

The import and export trade of the country is now intimately linked with the execution of national plans and to emphasise this aspect, the extension of the Bill is proposed for a period of six years, i.e., to synchronise with the currency of the third Five Year Plan. While the need for a certain measure of import and export control will remain with us for a much longer period than six years, the extension proposed is considered sufficient for the present thus providing the House with opportunity for further review at subsequent stages. I have no doubt that hon. Members will agree that this measure is necessary in the national interest.

Opportunity has been taken to make a few minor amendments in the Act in the light of the experience gained over the last few years. These amendments have become necessary to bring the existing practice in these matters in strict conformity with the position in law. Contravention of any condition of a licence granted under the provisions of this Act, or the orders formulated under it, which can be a serious matter and against which appropriate administrative measures are always taken commensurate with the seriousness of such contraventions, has now been directly brought within the penalty provisions of this Act.

As I have stated in the beginning, the Bill has been debated upon and passed by Rajya Sabha, and I hope this House will whole-heartedly give its full support.

Sir, I shall not take any further time of the House, and I beg to move that the Bill may be taken into consideration.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Imports and Exports (Control) Act, 1947, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Shri Bimal Ghose (Barrackpore): I have nothing against this Bill, but I would take this opportunity to make certain observations. The context in which this Bill was first passed has changed. There were import and

export regulations during the war, and then in 1947 this Act was first passed with a view to meet the position that has arisen just after the war, particularly because of the fact that certain industries were started at the time of the war and it was necessary to give them some measure of protection. Later on, the context had changed, and today foreign exchange is uppermost in the minds of everyone. We have to conserve our foreign exchange, and for that it is necessary that at least our import trade should be controlled. Export trade control is also necessary to some extent, when it is considered that certain commodities should not be permitted to be exported in the national interest. But, primarily, the object of this Bill is to control imports. Therefore, the controlling of import trade has the effect of giving protection to many of our industries. That is not the main purpose of import control, but that has been the effect: and the effect of this indirect protection is that it might introduce certain amount of rigidity in our economy and assist the establishment of industries which might not really be economical.

One advantage of giving tariff protection to industries is that there is a Tariff Commission which goes into the case of such industries and also reviews the progress made by the industries from time to time. It is a very important thing to see whether the industry concerned is being run efficiently or not and whether it would be in a competitive position in some future years. Since these industries are not given protection on the recommendation of the Tariff Commission, I was wondering whether the Government cannot devise some procedure by which a machinery would be set up to review the progress of industries, which are indirectly receiving the protection.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the hon. Member likely to take more time?

Shri Bimal Ghose: Yes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then he might continue his speech the next day.

17 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, February 24, 1960/Phalguna 5, 1881 (Saka).

[*Tuesday, February 23, 1960/Phalguna 4, 1881 (Saka)*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS . . . . 2239—77

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304.	Overpayment to contractors	2252—55
305.	Manufacture of teleprinters	2255—58
307.	Bombay-Zurich-London Air Service	2258—59
308.	Replacement of Dakotas	2259—63
310.	Shifting of P. & T. Headquarters from Cuttack to Bhubaneswar	2263—64
311.	D.V.C. Navigation Canal	2264
312.	Price of foodgrains	2265—68
313.	New Delhi Silence Zone	2268—70
314.	Distribution of fertilizers	2270—73
315.	Import of defective rails	2273—75
316.	Theft of railway fittings	2275—77

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS . . 2277—2320

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309.	Sugar	2278
317.	Inter-Ministerial Agricultural Production Board	2279
318.	Works Committee for I.A.R.I.	2279-80
319.	Madras Sugar Zone	2280
320.	Bombay-Agra Road	2280—81
321.	Imphal Municipality	2281—82
322.	Rice stock in Orissa	2282
323.	Damaged stream near Masulipatam	2282
324.	Robbery in train near Shikohabad	2283
325.	Shortage of power in Punjab	2283-84
326.	Delhi Development Authority	2284
327.	Part-time Employment in Post Offices, West Bengal	2285
328.	Railway level crossings, Bikaner	2285—86

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S.Q. No.	Subject	Columns
329.	Collision between a Glider and Pakistani Dakota	2286
330.	Rise in prices of oils	2286—87
331.	Profits out of cement distribution	2287-88
332.	Transport Cooperative Societies	2288
333.	Cornea grafting	2288—89
334.	Mata-Tila Hydel Project	2289-90
335.	Western Shipping Corporation	2290
336.	Railway Service Commissions	2290—91
337.	Cast iron sleepers	2291
338.	Subsidised hostel at Secunderabad	2291—92
339.	Programme for storage of foodgrains	2292—93
340.	R.M.S. sorting Section between Madras and Erode	2293
341.	Derailment of G.T. Express	2293-94
342.	Building Organisation for Posts and Telegraphs	2294
343.	Eastern Shipping Corporation	2294—95
344.	Canal works in Rajasthan	2295
U.S.Q. No.		
354.	Stabilisation of Assam Rail Link	2295—96
355.	Dining car on Bangalore-Poona Mail	2296
356.	Assistance for Health Schemes in Delhi	2297
357.	Fruit preservation Industry in Rajasthan	2297
358.	Bahuda River Project in Orissa	2298
359.	Drinking in trains	2298—99
360.	Refreshment rooms	2299
361.	Expert Committee on Cooperative Credit	2299—2300
362.	'Punarnava' Medicinal Herb	2300
363.	Hospital at Imphal	2300
364.	Construction of bridges in Uttar Pradesh	2301

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—*contd.*

U.S.Q. No.	*Subject*	COLUMNS
365.	Shifting of P. & T. Directorate from Ambala to Chandigarh	2301
366.	Railway over-bridges in Kanpur	2301–02
367.	Sleepers from Canada under Colombo Plan	2302–03
368.	Fruits in Himachal Pradesh	2303
369.	Medical Stores Depot, Karnal	2303–04
371.	Movement of wagons	2304–05
372.	Assault on Sub-postmaster, Arjunpur, W. Bengal	2305
373.	M. G. rolling stock	2305–06
374.	Manipur Medical Students	2306
375.	Rest Houses at Konark and Bhubaneswar	2306–07
376.	Missing tickets at Samastipur Junction	2307
377.	Damage to crops	2307–08
378.	Central Medical Library	2308
379.	Office of Joint Director of Food, Cuttack	2308–09
380.	Price and distribution of rice in U. P.	2309
381.	Co-operative Farming	2310—12
382.	Ayurveda	2312
383.	Loan to Punjab	2312–13
384.	Movement of goods	2313–14
385.	Conference of the State Ministers of Co-operation	2314—17
386.	Demand for fertilizers	2317
387.	Bombay Port Trust	2317–18
388.	Par-boiled rice	2318–19
389.	C. D. Block at Khowai (Tripura)	2319
390.	Roads in Agartala	2319–20
391.	Cold storage plants	2320

PAPER LAID ON THE TABLE 2320

Acopy of Notification No. G.S.R. 1065, dated the 19th September, 1959, making certain further amendment to the Indian Telegraph Rules, 1951, under sub-section (5) of Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885

REPORT OF ESTIMATES COMMITTEE PRESENTED 2320

Seventy-third Report presented.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE . 2321—23

Shri S. M. Banerjee called the attention to the Minister of Transport and Communications to the lightning strike on the 15th February, 1960 by the Bombay Port Trust workers.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur) made a statement in regard thereto.

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE ADOPTED . 2323–24

Forty-eighth Report was adopted.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (GENERAL), 1959-60 2324—2406

Further discussion on the Demands for Supplementary Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1959-60 was concluded and the demands were voted in full.

AMENDMENTS MADE BY RAJYA SABHA NEGATIVED . . 2407—53

Further discussion on the motion to consider the amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Dowry Prohibition Bill, 1959 was concluded and the motion was adopted. The amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Bill were negatived. Two amendments to the Bill moved by the Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen) were adopted.

COLUMNS

BILL UNDER CONSIDERATION . . . . 2453—56

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo) moved that the Imports and Exports (Control) Amendment Bill, 1959, as passed by Rajya Sabha be taken into consideration. The discussion was not concluded.

COLUMNS

AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1960/PHALGUNA 5, 1881 (SAKA)—

Further consideration of the Imports and Exports (Control) Amendment Bill, 1959, as passed by Rajya Sabha, consideration of the Delhi Land Holdings (Ceiling) Bill, 1959, as reported by the Joint Committee and passing of the Bills.

GMGIPND—LS II—374 (Ai) LSD—8-3-60—950.